

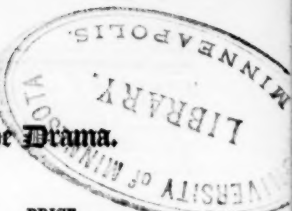
THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2661.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1878.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER



THE METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.—A COURSE OF SIX LECTURES ON METEOROLOGY will be given as follows, under the auspices of the Council of the Meteorological Society, at the Institution of Civil Engineers, 25, Great George-street, Westminster, on THURSDAY EVENINGS, at eight o'clock:—
I. OCTOBER 21st.—'The Physical Properties of the Atmosphere.' By Robert James Mann, M.D. F.R.C.S. F.R.G.S. and F.M.S.
II. NOVEMBER 7th.—'Air Temperature, its Distribution and Range.' By John Knox Laughton, M.A. F.R.A.S. F.R.G.S. F.M.S., Mathematical Instructor and Lecturer in Meteorology at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich.
III. NOVEMBER 14th.—'The Barometer and its Uses, Wind and Storms.' By Richard Strachan, F.M.S.
IV. NOVEMBER 21st.—'Clouds and Weather Signs.' By the Rev. William Clement Ley, M.A. F.M.S.
V. NOVEMBER 28th.—'Rain, Snow, Hail, and Atmospheric Electricity.' By George James Symonds, F.R.S. Hon. Sec. M.S.
VI. DECEMBER 5th.—'The Nature, Methods, and General Objects of Meteorology.' By Robert H. Scott, M.A. F.R.S. F.G.S. For Sec. M.S., Secretary to the Meteorological Council.
Tickets, syllabuses, and all information to be obtained of the Assistant-Secretary, Mr. W. MARSHALL, at the Office of the Society, 25, Great George-street, Westminster.

SCIENCE OF LIFE AND SOUL.—Those who are interested in this study may, on application, obtain Cards of Admission to hear the ADDRESS OF MR. SERJEANT COX, President of the Psychological Society of Great Britain, at the Fifth Annual Meeting, to be held at 11, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square, on THURSDAY, November 28th, at 5.30 p.m. punctually.—Apply to FRANCIS K. MORTON, Esq., Hon. Sec., Willesden, N.W.

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Forms of application for space may be had from the General Secretaries, York.

CABINET PICTURES IN OIL.—Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—NOTICE TO ARTISTS. The day for RECEIVING PICTURES for the Twelfth Annual Exhibition will be MONDAY, the 4th of NOVEMBER NEXT, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 5 P.M.
Regulations can be had on application to the SECRETARY, at the Gallery.

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London: Longmans & Co. Edinburgh: A. & C. Black.

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Stirring Times; or, Records from Jerusalem Consular Chronicles of 1853 to 1856. By the late James Finn, M.R.A.S. 2 vols. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

A GREATER adept in the art of writing might perhaps have compressed within smaller limits the amount of varied information contained in these volumes. The author's desire was to furnish—as by his position, sympathies, and attainments he was well qualified to do—a picture of the condition of Palestine during the years 1853–6, which include the period of the Crimean war. The drawing is lifelike and often artistic, and if the plan, or absence of plan, entails a certain amount of seeming repetition, the effect produced is the more impressive and lasting.

Among other subjects he has supplied much valuable material towards the understanding of that old and labyrinthine problem, the Eastern Question; his book may, therefore, be read with advantage not only by the thoughtful student of history, but by those more confident politicians for whom the "Eastern Question" began about two years ago with the Bulgarian atrocities. For in this account of the state of Syria a generation ago are focussed, in a remarkable degree, all the more characteristic conditions of the problem as they exist in the Turkey of to-day. We have the indolent and generally corrupt administration, often forced into doing justice by foreign interference, but often crippled in its power for good by foreign intrigue and mutual jealousies; constituting a *modus vivendi* between the various fanatical Christian and Jewish sects, and ensuring to them all a far greater amount of religious liberty than any one of them would voluntarily grant to the others; and, finally, a number of Arab tribes, peasant or Bedouin, who, though hating the Turks, revere the Sultan as, at all events, *de facto* Khalif, and who can thus be easily played off one against the other without any danger to the central power. The true solution of the difficulty would, Mr. Finn considers, have been found in a steady adherence to the policy of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and Lord Palmerston, to wit, firmly but gently to urge Turkey along the path of reform, taking care not to diminish her rightful authority at home, but helping to develop her resources and to strengthen her against foreign intrigue. Unfortunately, he says, just after the Crimean war, when the

designs of Russia had been checked, and abundant liberties conceded by the Turkish Government, our diligence was relaxed, a policy of neglect set in, matters retrograded, and, when the late Russian aggression began, it was too late for the disinterested powers, hampered or disunited from various causes, to retrieve their past neglect. It will, of course, be urged in reply that this scheme, besides being palliative rather than remedial, depends entirely for its successful working on the personal qualities of the consuls employed, and however sound Mr. Finn's views may be, they are too essentially British to meet with much acceptance abroad, for he not obscurely implies that, as regards Syria, England is the only disinterested power; with every other the interests of Turkey are postponed to those of some religious party. The Russians, who annually subsidize hordes of their own pilgrims, are the patrons of the native or Greek church, while the intrusive Latins are backed by the whole power of France; royalists and imperialists, republicans and Protestants being, where this is in question, equally faithful and devoted sons of the Church. The French "Protectorate of Christianity in the East" was often enforced with a high hand. When the Archduke Maximilian visited Mount Carmel he found the French flag flying over the Latin convent, and not wishing to be under French protection while living in the Sultan's territory he requested that the Austrian flag might be hoisted during his stay; but the request was refused, although several of the inmates of the convent were Austrian, and not one of them French. And the establishment of the Anglican Bishopric at Jerusalem was objected to even by French Protestants as an infringement of the old historic right! The contest about the "holy places" which preceded the Crimean war is now matter of history; but Mr. Finn's account of the Jerusalem disturbances will be read with interest as coming from one familiar with all the local disputants, and with the motives which actuated not only the savage fanatics who fought their battle within the walls of the Holy Sepulchre, but those whose game they played. It is difficult, however, to admit that this dispute was more than a proximate cause of the Crimean war, or that the politics of the great world always hinge on those of Jerusalem, a view which in fact recalls the eloquent Syrian interlocutor of Tancred; but it is perhaps not surprising that one long resident in Jerusalem, and deeply imbued with the religious associations common to the three great monotheistic creeds, should make these the measure of its political importance. Mr. Finn dwells with enthusiasm on the exceptional variety of the interests surrounding him. His knowledge of Hebrew enabled him to enter alike into modern Jewish questions of interest, and into points of Biblical archaeology. He was equally at home with the Arabs, while travellers and pilgrims, Christian, Jewish, and Mohammedan, from the most remote countries, were constantly arriving, bringing fresh information or suggesting new trains of thought. In pursuance of directions from the Foreign Office, which harmonized besides with his own inclinations, he devoted much of his time to the protection and relief of the Jews, great numbers of whom were found to be suffering

the extremities of want. Their rabbis, however, offered the most violent opposition to the establishment of agricultural and other relief works, as these would interfere with the hours of prayer and other observances which were, they said, the only fitting occupation for their people in this age of "Galuth"—or possession of their land by the Gentiles.

Their views, in short, as to secular occupations resembled those of the President of the Latin Monastery on Mount Carmel, who, in reply to the question whether the monks were permitted to use their library, answered "that it was not desirable to encourage the intrusion, into the mind of a recluse, of a crowd of external ideas, however harmless these might be to other persons; lest by doing so the delicacy of spiritual susceptibilities might receive some injury." But since the visits of Sir Moses Montefiore and other enlightened Jews from Europe these rabbinical prejudices have been a good deal weakened. The present condition of the Jews, indeed, bears no comparison with that of even thirty years ago. They are no longer harassed by the Turkish Government, which, besides, protects them from persecution at the hands of their Christian neighbours, whose fanatical feeling against them is still very strong. Even the Sardinian Consul assured Mr. Finn "in private conversation that there could be no doubt of the Jews using Christian blood in the Passover rites whenever they could get it,—or at any rate that they did so in the Middle Ages." From early times the Jews always enjoyed a large measure of self-government; they also cherish certain old and curious privileges. One of these is the coining of a sort of money—"small squares of brass-foil, stamped with the Hebrew words *קנין וקנין*, i.e., visiting the sick. The practice seems to have originated in adopting a fictitious currency, on temporary occasions, as a means of almsgiving, in anticipation of real money coming to hand. In the Jewish bazaar these pieces are current for all purposes of trade, and are sometimes accepted and passed among other inhabitants of the city as paras, though inferior in value to even that small coin. The Turks disapprove of the practice, and now and then take the trouble to prohibit it. The Jews, however, are proud of their show of independent royalty, and even if willing to discontinue it, would find it difficult to call in these tokens, so long as their heavy debt remains, for they do actually represent a certain amount of metallic value. The other custom is that of getting possession of the great keys of the city gates on the decease of each Sultan of Constantinople, and after a religious service of prayer, and anointing them with a mysterious preparation of oil and spices, allowing them to be returned to the civic authorities on behalf of the new monarch. For the exercise of this traditional custom they make heavy presents to the local governors, who allow of a harmless practice that has prescription to show on its behalf. It is a matter of 'bakhshesh' to them, and there is always a class of superstitious people to be found in Palestine who think that the benediction of the ancient 'children of Israel' is worth having; the Jewish feelings are gratified, for their expectation of the future is refreshed, and the Jerusalem rabbis are enabled to boast all the world over among their people that they suffer the Sultan of Turkey to keep possession of the Holy City."

A prominent feature of official life in Jerusalem consists in the rivalries and jealousies between the different consulates, each striving to be at least on a level with the other in such important matters as official receptions, hoisting and saluting of flags, and the like, though Mr.

Finn was disposed to take these matters more quietly than some of his colleagues. The last mentioned honour had, owing to some special circumstances, been bestowed on the flags of Austria and France, in consequence of which

"One day late in the month of December I was favoured with a visit from my Spanish colleague Don Pio, who with the utmost simplicity and politeness proceeded to deliver a message, which he told us had been committed to him by the Prussian Consul, to the effect that whereas the British flag had not yet been inaugurated by a Turkish salute from the Castle, we, 'the three smaller powers of Europe—Spain, Prussia, and England, should combine and apply to the Pasha to have that honour conferred on us jointly, the three ensigns being raised at the same minute.'"

But these disputes did not, it is pleasant to learn, prevent cordial private intercourse.

It may be doubted whether, as Mr. Finn seems to imply, the condition of Syria has become materially worse than it was during the period under review. He quotes, fairly enough perhaps, the Lebanon massacres of 1860 as a proof of our neglect, due as these were not to any local accidents, but to deliberate instigation from without; but the country to the southward (west of Jordan) has long been in a condition very different to the state of warfare which he describes as prevailing among the tribes and villages of Palestine, leading to widespread suffering by the interruption of sowing and harvest, besides the loss of lives by fighting. The absence of any Christian grievance is remarkable. In fact, it is now the Muslim peasant alone who has no redress from tyrannous exactions, the Jews and Christians having each their protectors, to whose remonstrances the local officials are obliged to attend. Accordingly the Muslim victims of misgovernment often appealed to Mr. Finn, addressing their petitions "to him to whom all the persecuted do run." The influence he had among the warring village clans—who were always ready at his instance to patch up their differences and agree to a truce—was a flattering tribute to his energy and personal character. Many of the adventures encountered in these attempts at peace-making are highly interesting and well described. In the midst of such disturbances the families of the English residents lived free from molestation in their summer camps:—

"We carried on our domestic life, and read and worked and wrote while children played around, and the horses were picketed under the trees. We walked out or rode as it pleased us, aware, indeed, that the peasantry were at war with each other, and that the government were powerless to stop them from fighting. The facts were brought home to us personally in no more disagreeable fashion than has been described above, when our slumbers were cut short at daybreak on a lovely summer's morning by the shouts of the combatants, and by the somewhat too close discharge of their guns, seeing that the bullets whistled and sang in flying past our tents. Sometimes the woman who brought us our milk could not come because her village was in the fight; sometimes we had no fresh supply of drinking water from a favourite spring, for fear the enemy should seize the peasant's donkeys which bore the water skins. These were our most serious inconveniences, and, as has been related, we could, on the other hand, hope to do some good in doctoring the wounded and in separating the combatants, at least for a time, by some short-lived truce granted 'in honour of the Consul,' who begged for it, and whom none were willing to refuse."

During the war, a distinguished chief of the

Lebanon was heard to speak very disrespectfully of H.M. Queen Victoria, the Sultan's ally, and was accordingly sent to answer for his words at Constantinople. His account of his experiences is characteristic:—

"He was put hastily on board a vessel at Beyrout, and his entreaties refused, which he pleaded with tears, to be accompanied by one or more of his sons who had accompanied him so far. Then he arrived at Constantinople, amid all its wondrous sights, and was sent by Turkish officials through dirty and winding streets to the palace of the English Embassy. There he was taken through successive apartments by servants in showy dresses into a vast saloon and detained there, standing at one end of it, while at a distance he could see an old man and his secretary busied with papers over a table. 'An Ameer of the Shehâbs of the Lebanon, I, an old man, was kept standing in silence for a long time, but at length that old man, the ambassador, rose and came to me without compliments or invitation to be seated, asked me my name, then asked again, then pointed to my white beard, and said he thought that such a beard would only have belonged to a *man*, to a *wise man*, not a child.' This ambassador then ordered the attendants to conduct him to — Pasha's house, to be dealt with by the Turkish authorities; but to be shown, before returning to Syria, the camps of the French and English armies, as well as the military preparations of the Porte. From the Turkish officials he received reproaches and neglect, and when he was without money they refused to supply him, so that he had to get home as well as he could by borrowing from common money lenders. Such was his own narrative, and, in giving it, the Ameer spoke only in the tone of a person who felt that he had deserved his mild punishment. The well-timed discipline exercised on this occasion produced most excellent effect. The Ameer was a staunch protector of English people, and, what was more valuable still, of native Christians to the day of his death."

Lady Strangford, who contributes a preface to these volumes, draws from them the conclusion that with firmness, patience, and the averting of hostile foreign intrigues, the government of these people should be no difficult problem. Certainly their requirements in the way of reform would be moderate. Their proverb says,—

Ez zulmeh bi saweayah
Addâlat bi ra'eeyah;

i.e., Tyranny with equality, or even-handed tyranny, is righteousness to the subject;—"As for Ali Shaikha," some villagers said of a dispossessed tyrant, "it is true he was sometimes hard on us—but then he is our father, and it is a father's duty to chastise his children. We could not return to our village without him, for how can a tent stand upright without its pole in the middle?"

Mohammedan toleration of Christianity is no doubt often due to contemptuous indifference, as expressed in the Arab proverb, "Reehhet et Toom, reehheh wahdeh," i.e., "the smell of garlic is all one," but Mr. Finn noticed a great and steady increase in liberality of feeling. The Kadi of the fanatical town of Nabloos used to repeat the Lord's Prayer when he visited the Consul. During a scarcity of rain the pasha invited the Jews to go and pray for it in the Haram or Sanctuary, never before opened to them. This they refused from superstitious motives, but asked leave to pray instead at the Tomb of David, which was granted to them. The pasha afterwards attended service in the English church, and the rain which followed was attributed by the natives to his having done so.

We have by no means exhausted the topics of which these volumes treat. On his more extended official tours the Consul came freely into contact with various classes and creeds, and tells us much of their habits and ways of thought. His views on the origin of the peasantry coincide with those ingeniously advocated in Lient. Conder's recent work. He has also something to say about the ancient topography of the country, about its history, and its resources. In each and all of these subjects he took a keen and intelligent interest, and will not fail to carry his readers along with him.

Hibernia Venatica. By M. O'Connor Morris. (Chapman & Hall.)

READING these records of hunting in Ireland during last season is like eating all last year's dinners over again at once. Human nature is not equal to such a feat. It may be doubted whether the keenest foxhunter who ever broke away from Punchestown gorse or galloped over Parsontown Moor, much as he enjoyed last year seeing his exploits recorded in the *Field*, would care to reperuse them in cold blood collected together into a stout octavo. A good run with foxhounds is essentially of present interest. When a week old it has lost much of its savour; it is overlaid by half-a-dozen better chases, and forgotten at the end of a month. Ordinary runs furnish half-an-hour's chat in the smoking-room before going to bed, and no one save the correspondent of a sporting newspaper would think of noticing them further. Yet Mr. Morris is, it seems, forced not merely to print accounts of the ordinary runs of the season as they occur, but a year afterwards to reprint them. Were Charles Lamb alive he would certainly class these productions with almanacs, directories, and the like *biblia abiblia*. Not that a few descriptions of fox-hunts could not be ably written, and, when so written (as they have been in some notable instances), claim to be regarded as literature. But it would tax the pen of the most ingenious writer to describe the hunting of a province or a country like Ireland during a whole season. *Prodigialiter variare rem unam* is the art such a chronicler should possess. In Mr. Morris's '*Hibernia Venatica*' this art is conspicuously wanting. Bad as was his style in '*Triviata*' (*Athen.* Feb. 17th, 1877), it is now worse, because its viciousness is confirmed. Aristotle, indeed, says that whiteness a day old is in no wise whiter than the whiteness of a thousand days, but it is the direct contrary with style. What is bad this year becomes worse next year.

Mr. Morris's writing is nothing less than execrable. In grandiloquence, pompousness, and fondness for trite quotations no other writer, except a few novelists, could dispute the palm with him: and his egotism and knowledge of sporting slang are unapproachable. He takes the utmost pains to use the wordiest periphrasis possible for the simplest circumstance. He never writes directly and to the point. So common an animal as a fox is translated in one page of Mr. Morris's book into "a vulp"; in another into "an esurient." A man in a carriage never looks round at his neighbours, he is not so vulgar: he "surveys the peripheries," whatever that may mean. Another's name becomes "his proud nuncupation." Rain is not an un-

familiar phenomenon in Ireland; but it is so tremendous in Mr. Morris's eyes that at one time it is called "a pluviose downpour"; at another, "a diluvial downpour." Does an unfortunate foxhunter have a fall, the grandiose method of telling this is,— "A pillar of the Irish turf became for the nonce a pillar of Irish mud, whilst his place in the alphabet of pursuit, generally high Alpha, waxed by this misadventure Omega." This sort of thing borders on the comic, though obviously no joke is intended. Thoroughly to appreciate the insufferable character of Mr. Morris's writing, a larger sample must be taken, and it shall be selected at random. Here is p. 239:—

"Oh, for a muse of fire!" says our great dramatic poet, 'that should ascend the highest heav'n of inspiration,'—or invention, which was it? Oh, for an observing eye! says your scribe, and the power of reproducing, even faintly and dimly, a photograph of a magnificent chase which the Ward Union hounds have just had. No colouring, no embellishment is required; a tithe part of the bare unsophisticated reality would be enough to set the imagination of those who love to ride for eight or ten miles straight over peerless pastures, unprofaned by the plough for many a generation; over wide fair fences, where, on a good hunter—a real workman—you can go almost recklessly at the first place that presents itself in the line of obstacle, and then, if you think you have three or four more miles in hand, you will find five or six companions in your wild ecstacy, a streaming pack, and a deer with some 'go' left still in its agile frame and unchoked lungs in front of you. He is not magnifying a pursuit which he saw well himself, or was fortunate in; on the contrary, it was his lot to get into the very first ditch, having charged a wide spot with perhaps insufficient energy, and, as extrication involves a few very precious seconds, a stern receding chase."

'Hibernia Venatica' positively teems with solecisms and mistakes, etymological as well as grammatical. In the Preface alone are to be found "Hibernia Paccata," "a terrestrial anadymene," "exploited," and a sentence towards the close, "While a few large-acred men prefer the pheasant of the minority to the fox, the joy of the majority," ends here abruptly, like the same fox run to earth. Any need of an apodosis is entirely lost sight of. Further on in the book we have "nuper idoneus," "diuretic" (for diuretic), "the lady vote—*noto quia femina possit*," "les grande dames."

It may be that Irish hunters do not object to this piebald style, and if so there is plenty of reading for them in this volume. Harriers, staghounds, and foxhounds chase their respective quarries in many chapters. The Kil-dare hounds, the Wexford hounds, the Louth hounds, and Mr. Burton Perse's pack are exhaustively discussed: they and their prospects, their actual achievements, and the after effects of the runs during last season. A great many horses are commended, and a great many riders. Much may be learnt about the most noted coverts of Ireland, and the line of country which the quarry in each case usually takes. It is true that each chapter is modelled on much the same plan as its neighbour, so that if the reader be in doubt where he left off he can take up the narrative without any sense of dislocation two chapters afterwards. Perhaps this similarity in Mr. Morris's hunting narratives is unavoidable when they are published in a periodical, but it is a blemish in a book. Any one can construct these chronicles of Irish (or any other) sport in the

following simple manner. A page must be devoted to the weather, what it is or what it should be, and this must be interspersed with two or three scraps of verse, and be written in superfine English. Let a fox then be found, say at Castle Leitrim, and pursued over meadow and heath, by Clashbally Holt, round Parson's Gorse, under the Meath road, through Langore, &c., as long as may be necessary, the different mischances which ensued at every obstacle being related in sporting phrase. Then kill the fox with a "who-whoop," or lose him, according to taste, and finish the chapter with a brilliant bouquet, like a night of fireworks at the Crystal Palace. This is effected by naming all the notable men and women who followed the fox, with a word of approbation for each group. First, if possible, let the Duke of Connaught be mentioned and his *aides-de-camp*; it is fitting also that a word or two be bestowed on their horses; then Lord This and Lady That, the Countess of So-and-so, the Hon. Mrs. This-and-that, should be thrown in; captains, majors, and lieutenants may be peppered freely over the mixture, and then plain Mr. and Mrs. and Miss as many as the case may demand. A few words follow, fitly enough, as a postscript upon the doings of one or two neighbouring packs. Mr. Morris gave to the world a book of this character last year, 'Hibernia Venatica' this year, and to all appearance may go on year after year to the end of his life doing the same. The trick of authorship once caught a writer can produce interminable volumes. It is the more incumbent, therefore, on the reviewer to point out the characteristics of this strongly marked style, rebuke its pretentiousness, and endeavour to persuade its votaries to supply a long-suffering section of society, those fond of foxhunting, with narratives written in a more artistic fashion. Few but would rejoice in such a pleasing change in sporting literature.

It must not be forgotten that 'Hibernia Venatica' is illustrated by some half-dozen photographs of Irish huntresses. As all these ladies are equally beautiful, and are all alike dressed in riding habits, a critic cannot play the part of Paris, and the author may be allowed to speak. The "portraits which illustrate this volume are those of ladies," he says, "some of whom are by position and circumstance queens of hunting society; all ride often and ride well to hounds; but I do not maintain that they are sole patentees of this most beautiful art, my contention is that they grace and adorn it much." These are the last words of the book, and probably no more need be said.

CYPRUS.

Cyprus: its History, its Present Resources, and Future Prospects. By R. Hamilton Lang. (Macmillan & Co.)

Cyprus: its Resources and Capabilities. By E. G. Ravenstein, F.R.G.S. (Philip & Son.)

Cyprus, Past and Present. By E. Clarke. (Moxon & Co.)

The book and two pamphlets which we notice to-day are of interest from the subject, apart from their own merit. That information as to our latest acquired territory is sorely needed was shown by Lord Salisbury's answer to Lord Granville's request for it—that

contained in the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' being all that the Government had to offer, and therefore the appearance of works by authorities so competent may be hailed with pleasure. Indeed, in Mr. Lang we have to deal with an author whose personal acquaintance with the island extends over a period of nine years.

All three authors commence with an account of the ancient history of Cyprus, on which there is no need to dwell. That history is fairly well known to all who can boast of what people are pleased to call a liberal education, and Englishmen have a nearer and more direct interest in the present. The part Cyprus played with reference to Egypt is perhaps an exception, and worthy of being more particularly noted. Every now and then, as Mr. Clarke says, "she (Egypt) put forth her strong right hand to seize the position which she justly regarded as the key to her own portals, and kept it as long as she could." We know of no direct evidence to substantiate the inference drawn by him that her rulers did so regard it; but the fact that, long before the days of powerful fleets or steam, it was the only island in the Mediterranean she attempted to grasp is significant, and may well be laid to heart by the power whose future so much depends upon the territory of the Khedive being preserved from foreign interference or influence other than its own.

Mr. Lang is extremely outspoken in his deductions, considering that—

"it forms an invaluable outpost for the defence of the Suez Canal; it will protect the Asiatic terminus of a possibly future Euphrates Valley Railway; it will prove a convenient starting-point, as well as a depot for whatever operations may become necessary in the future in Asiatic Turkey. All the great aggressive dynasties of the world—Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, Macedonian—have found the capture or subjugation of Cyprus a first necessary step in the approach upon Egypt. We have, therefore, good cause to be satisfied that this important position is in our possession. In proportion as it would be valuable against us in the hands of our enemies, it is precious in ours, as a barrier against the approach of any power which might menace our communications through Egypt."

If this be sound the inference follows that it would be impossible to adopt Mr. Forbes's advice and retire from Cyprus. As long as the island was held by a comparatively strong Turkey, and there was an undertaking on the part of the Powers not to interfere with its territorial integrity, it was clear that England could rest content with things as they were. The communications so important to her were guarded by her existing possessions, and Cyprus could not be used as a basis for their interruption by others. But things are now changed. The treaties of guarantee which insured non-interference are abrogated, and England has shown in the most practical way that the Sultan may alienate. Mr. Lang, therefore, would no doubt hold that to withdraw would be to risk the cession of Cyprus to another Power for financial or other considerations, and that the power which the possession of Cyprus would confer, of threatening English communications with India would make the island a considerable factor in European politics.

The topic which, of all others connected with Cyprus, has been exciting the greatest

attention in England is dealt with by our three authorities, but more particularly by Mr. Ravenstein. Everybody has seen in the daily papers accounts of the sickness among the English troops, notably in the letters of one correspondent, little allowance being made for the possibility of its being the worst season of the year at which those unaccustomed to the climate could have been landed in the island, or for the unfitness of troops suddenly emancipated from the pipe-clay and routine duties of Malta to withstand its influences. Mr. Ravenstein says:—

"The climate of Cyprus is better than its reputation. The rainy season lasts from October to February, and is succeeded by a delicious and invigorating spring. Minor rains set in in April, and continue to the middle of May, when heavy night dews take their place. During the whole of this period—that is, from February to May—Cyprus is a delightful place of residence, and tourists should decidedly select that time for their visit. In June the air parts with its moisture, dews fall no longer, the heat increases, occasionally rising to 100° F. in the shade. Cool sea-breezes, lasting from nine in the morning to three in the afternoon, temper the heat during that time. Not a breath of wind stirs the air, trees shed their leaves, rivers dry up, the parched soil thirsts for water, the salt lagoons exhale poisonous miasmata, which hang like a pall over the country, and myriads of insects and clouds of dust add to the general discomfort."

And, again,—

"the climate is salubrious. The inhabitants live to a good old age, and are subject to few ailments. The intermittent fevers of Larnaka, Famagosta, and other places are due to the vicinity of swamps, or salt ponds, or to an unguarded exposure to the air. The swamps should be drained, and the salt ponds placed in communication with the sea, so that the water can circulate freely. The latter could be effected at a trifling expense, and we feel sure would prove as effectual in Cyprus as it has done elsewhere. Eucalypti might likewise be planted with advantage."

He adds tables compiled from the observations of Dr. Fonblant (May to September, 1853), Unger (March and April, 1862), G. Pascotini (May to November, 1862), and R. B. Sandwith (during thirty-two months, 1866-70), which, as he says, speak for themselves, showing the mean annual temperature of Larnaka to be nearly the same as that of Gibraltar or Algiers. This account is borne out by both Mr. Clarke and Mr. Lang. The former says:—

"It has hitherto borne rather an evil reputation for excessive summer heat, and for the prevalence of fever and ague during the hot months, but there has been some amount of exaggeration in these reports, the truth being that the heat, though less than that of India, is something considerable from July to October, while the Sirocco winds of Syria are considerably cooled down in crossing the sea, and a fresh breeze springs up daily from the S.W., continuing from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. The marshes near the town (Larnaka) are the cause of such aguish fevers as exist, which, however, are not severe, and, by proper drainage and cultivation of the waste lands, and perhaps some judicious planting of *Eucalyptus globulus* and similar trees, will disappear entirely."

And the latter:—

"The island is very commonly called unhealthy, but I object to the expression until I know what is meant. If it is meant that Englishmen cannot go out there during the summer months without a considerable risk of catching fever and ague, I admit its correctness. But I ask to what country with the thermometer at 90° in the shade can

Englishmen, with their national love of heavy eating and of alcoholic liquors, be sent without incurring a considerable risk of sickness of some kind? It will be found, however, that a large proportion of those who go to Cyprus enjoy as good health as they can hope for in any country. Further, I object to blaming the climate for evils which result from defective sanitary regulations, and especially from the overcrowding, without previous preparation, of towns without sewers or street cleansers, surrounded by stagnant pools, and by all that the laziness and indifference of man can accomplish to infect the air. I would judge of the healthiness or unhealthiness of the climate from its effects upon those who, from long wont, live in accordance with its requirements, and who inhabit places free from exceptional and removable disadvantages. Judged by this standard the climate of Cyprus cannot be declared unhealthy. It is inhabited, and has been from time immemorial, by a perfectly healthy and robust native population free from all serious sickness, and living to a hale old age. A climate of which this can be said is not justly called unhealthy. Facts, however, often carry more conviction than reasoning, and it is a fact that I lived in Larnaka, and went about the island summer and winter during nine years, and never enjoyed better health anywhere. My sister did so during four years with a similar experience. The consular changes which I witnessed during my residence there were of three French consuls, three Italian consuls, three British, and two American consuls, and the only casualties amongst them were the death of a French consul from cholera, and of an Italian consul when absent from the island. All the others, although disgusted with an inactive life destitute of social resources, left the island in perfectly robust health, and never suffered from any serious sickness. Of the pernicious fevers which destroy many lives reported by Dr. Clarke, who spent ten days in the island, I can only say that I never heard of them during my residence, although they may have existed before my arrival."

Before leaving this subject it may be well to call to mind the caution given by the author of 'Cyprus' in *Macmillan*, when speaking of the climate: "The public will do well to refuse to read all impressions of Cyprus written before next April, and to prepare themselves for most lugubrious accounts from the pens of all summer excursionists." The bugbear—for bugbear it would seem to be—from which we have been suffering is not, therefore, so very fearful after all, and was foreseen by those who knew the place. It was unfortunate, but inevitable, that at the moment of occupation of a country regarding which the authorities possessed strangely little knowledge, the public had to depend on the first, although honest, impressions of correspondents; but it may be hoped that before the next unhealthy season comes round such precautions may be taken as will render the health of our troops as good there as in any other of our Mediterranean stations.

The other subject, which just now more particularly engrosses attention, touches the pocket, and is therefore looked upon almost as a personal question by a large section of those who contribute to the taxes of the country, viz., the capability of the new acquisition to pay its own expenses. On this point it is satisfactory to know that three such authorities hold a sanguine view.

It is impossible to enter into details, for which readers should refer to the admirable accounts, supplemented by tables, which Mr. Ravenstein gives. It is known, however, that Cyprus maintained at the time of the

Turkish occupation a million of inhabitants, and that the surplus revenue in 1873-77 amounted, according to official returns, to 100,596*l.*; that, as we mentioned in our notice of Herr von Lüher's volume, it abounds in minerals, the working of which has ceased, owing to the destruction of the forests, and to the consequent want of fuel, but that there is every hope of coal being found within easy working distance of the surface, which may enable us again to tap its vast wealth; that the plain between the two ranges, at least, is, as Mr. Ravenstein describes it, "of exceeding fertility, and might be converted into one huge cornfield"; and that notwithstanding that agriculture is carried on in the rudest manner, with the area of cultivation immensely reduced by the dearth of population (at present only 150,000), the average produce was estimated by M. Gaudry in 1855 to be of the value of 347,600*l.*, since which time Mr. Ravenstein considers that there has been a considerable increase. Among minor branches of revenue might be mentioned salt, which even under Turkish mismanagement produced in 1872 20,000*l.*, although thirty years ago it was valued at 400*l.* What difficulties are there in the way of developing the resources of such a country? Apparently none; patience, perseverance, and time are all that are requisite, the latter being gauged by the amount of capital introduced.

Mr. Lang's work is quite different in character from the other two, which are rather handbooks than standard works. Readers should particularly refer to the chapters headed "History to Modern Times," and "Our Prospects in the New Era." Men of all shades of politics will find in them much matter for serious consideration. Especially would we draw attention to his warning against overturning the existing system and machinery to substitute in its place something more elaborate—too elaborate for the people.—

"Cyprus as a British possession must become a model of good government, an oasis in the surrounding desert of unenlightened administrations. To attain this will not be easy, and our first attempts may be costly and humiliating. It is very easy to do what we did in Corfu, to spend a great deal of money, and create an artificial prosperity at the cost of the mother country. But we must blush to feel that in material prosperity, and in her vital interests, Corfu is as well off to-day under the Greeks as it was when under the model government of the world. The plain fact is that as a nation we are too insular, and, as we think nothing good born outside of our contracted home-sphere, we seek to impose our British notions upon peoples brought up under circumstances entirely different. We cannot, except at the cost of great discomfort and considerable grumbling, put Oriental feet, accustomed to the simplest covering, into tight-fitting Western boots; and the inhabitants of an Oriental clime would not find close-fitting Western boots administer to their comfort. The process towards Western standards must be gradual, and especially it must go upon the line of steadily improving the systems of justice and administration long current in the country, so as by slow but sure steps to raise Eastern conceptions to Western principles."

The sin of the Turk has not been so much misgovernment as want of government. As Mr. Clarke describes it, the island has been engulfed in a "stagnant flood, which has enfeebled and paralyzed her." The theory of government is not bad, and is suited to the

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ways of the people; let Englishmen be content, therefore, to import the energy necessary to make the machinery work.

We cannot conclude our notice without drawing attention to one fact mentioned by Mr. Ravenstein:—

"Waste lands and forests (perhaps eighty-eight per cent. of the whole area), and a very considerable portion of cultivated land, remain the absolute property of the Porte, and agricultural improvement will thus be impeded, and if a larger surface should be brought under cultivation,—and who can doubt that such will be the case?—the island will suffer all the disadvantages resulting from the greater portion of it belonging to an absentee proprietor. The rents exacted will be drained into the pockets of insatiable Turkish officials, instead of being expended in the island, where this newly created wealth would promote the well-being, the happiness and culture of the inhabitants. Far better would it have been to pay a lump sum for all the rights the Porte may claim to possess on the island, and perhaps it is not too late even now to repair this deplorable oversight."

We said much the same thing when reviewing Herr von Löher's book last August.

Memoirs of Hans Hendrik, the Arctic Traveller. Written by Himself, and Translated from the Eskimo Language by Dr. Henry Rink. (Trübner & Co.)

Who that has read, even in the most cursory manner, the literature of Arctic exploration has not heard of Greenland Hans, Dr. Kane's dog-driver, who, all for love of Shangu's pretty daughter, cast in his lot with the Smith's Sound Eskimo? In Hayes's expedition, poor Hans, not yet cured of his fondness for going far a-field, again occupied a prominent place, though the American explorer, most unjustly, and little to his own credit for discernment, conceived a violent antipathy to his old fellow sufferer. Next, when a middle-aged man, Hans shared in all the perils of Hall's expedition, and finally reached civilization by floating into the Atlantic on a piece of ice. To men less courageous, these experiences would have been enough. Thenceforward the sturdy Eskimo might have considered himself justified in settling down at Upernivik or Prøven, to kill seals or boil blubber for the Kavdlunak all the rest of his days, a traveller of note and a teller of strange tales. Yet, in 1875, he was unable to resist Capt. Nares's eloquence, and, once more leaving his wife (born Shangu), the companion of his many wanderings, and those round little fur-clad children, of whom the honest fellow writes so often and so lovingly, he "engages with the Tuluks," and serves Her Britannic Majesty most faithfully for the better part of eighteen months. Then he settles down at Disco, and, "at the solicitation of numerous friends,"—the Royal Inspector and his wife, to wit,—Hans, like many a less notable man, writes his biography in his native tongue. The result is not a large volume, for the ex-dog-driver is no book-maker, nor is his first attempt at authorship a polished piece of writing. The scanty education which he picked up from the Danish missionaries will not allow of many rhetorical flourishes. But, for all that, it may be questioned whether such an autobiography was ever published before. It is, we believe, the second literary effort of the Eskimo nation, and the quaint, simple

narrative, with all its blunders in orthography, geography, and nomenclature, bears the obvious marks of stern fidelity to the truth. The MS. was not written for publication, nor in its preparation did the author receive the slightest aid from any one; but Dr. Rink, into whose hands, as the official head of Greenlandic affairs, it fell, has done well to publish it. He has translated it into English rather than Danish, wisely concluding that, as its author had always served in English-speaking expeditions, their language has greater claims on him than any other. The translator has prefixed to the autobiography some introductory remarks, chiefly relating to the various expeditions in which Hans served, but the narrative itself he has left untouched, only adding a word or two in brackets here and there when these seemed necessary for the due understanding of the sometimes obscure text. It is curious to find how little Hans understood English, though he had lived so long among English-speaking people. Dr. Kane never appears in his narrative under any other guise than the phonetic "Tartikene," and Dr. Hayes is "Tart Eise." Cape York, where Hans watched so wistfully for a ship during his weary banishment between the rescue of Kane's party and the arrival of Hayes's, is invariably called "Kip John," and Capt. Hall is "Captain Ull." Capt. Nares's name he does not seem to have known, nor does he mention Capt. Stephenson under any other designation than "our Captain." Lieut. Beaumont is "Mister Bluman"; Lieut. Wyatt Rawson, "Mister Rulsen," and so forth. One or two of the names it is, indeed, impossible to interpret, as they do not appear in anything like Hans's version in the official lists. Perhaps they were "nicknames."

The narrative is not only quaint, but really valuable, both from an historical and ethnological point of view, and it is probable that the sketch of Hall's expedition is on the whole more trustworthy than any other we possessed until recently. Hans, it may also be remarked, gives very different versions, and more prosaic ones, too, of some events, to which Dr. Kane and others have given an extremely dramatic turn. For instance, he declares that he deserted Kane's expedition mainly because of the "Master's haughtiness to his crew," Hans included. It is indeed not a little humiliating to find that he was always in terror of being flogged, both on board the American and English expeditions. He also contradicts the oft-repeated assertion of Dr. Kane that, until his arrival, the Smith's Sound Eskimo believed themselves to be the only people on the face of the earth. On the contrary,—

"In the days of yore their ancestors used to visit Upernivik, for which reason they still speak of 'Southlanders.' These northern people had for their merchandise walrus teeth, for which they got wood, whereas the Southlanders had wood [drift] to barter with. Their ancestors also possessed kayaks."

Like all autobiographers, Hans begins with his genealogy:—

"To relate how the northern part of the big country came to be explored, I write this—I, Hans Hendrik, who first lived at Kekertarsuatsiak [Fiskernæs], belonging to the Germans [Moravians], but have now removed north to Kangersuatsiak, belonging to Upernivik. I was born in the German [missionary station of] Kekertarsuatsiak,

which had three priests, and my father served the priests. He used to go to the other stations to lead divine service there on the great holidays. His name was Benjamin. My mother had the charge of the church lamps. Her name was Ernestine."

The author thus relates how he and the Polaris party left upon the ice—and who were indebted to him and the other Eskimo for their lives—were picked up by the Tigris:—

"Towards morning I was awakened by hearing them talking about 'ship'; and when I got up I saw it emerging from the fog. I directly set off in my kayak, and when I came to them they questioned me: 'Who are ye?' I answered: 'Nord Polen mut Polaris Bebeles' [peoples?]. Then furthermore they asked: 'How do ye do?' I answered: 'Captain Ull Diet' [died]."

Hans describes his meeting with Dr. Hayes's expedition:—

"Once during my stay at Kip John [Cape York?] in the beginning of autumn, we got sight of a ship. When drawing nearer they came close in from off us, lowered a boat and pulled towards us. When close by I recognised two gentlemen in the stern, the doctor and the astronomer, both of whom I knew were my friends. Before reaching the shore they shouted, calling me by name. I said: 'It is I,' on hearing which they were greatly pleased; I, too, was very glad to see these gentlemen, who liked me. They asked me: 'Ju Hans Hendrik?' I answered: 'Yes, I am it.' They were also accompanied by three natives [of Greenland, Eskimo]. When they landed they said, that they wanted me alone to go with their vessel. I answered that I wished to take my wife along with me. They said: 'Better let her stay behind, next winter thou canst go to fetch her.' I replied: 'I don't like to leave her, I pity her and her baby.' They added: 'Well, then, bring her.' I said, likewise: 'I will carry my tent with me.' I then left the other tent to the parents of my wife."

Next we have an account of how "I was engaged by the Tuluks" [English]:—

"On entering the harbour we found that the Tuluk vessels had arrived. When we were going to anchor, the assistant [outpost-trader] came down, I feared to scold me; but on the contrary, he accosted me very friendly: 'I am glad thou hast returned, otherwise the Tuluks would have gone to fetch thee. Thou art to follow the northern explorers, taking Matak along with thee.' When I heard this I reluctantly agreed. I went up to my house to take my best clothes. Before I was ready they shouted outside: 'The assistant wants thee.' When I came out to him, I found there the Tuluks officers who had come to ask me whether I was willing to go with them or not. At the same time the assistant gave me a letter, by which I understood that I was to go with them. Consequently when they asked me whether I was willing, I complied. They also talked about a companion for me. I said I should like, as I went along, to pick up my wife's brother who lived near Kip John [Cape York?]. I believed him to be a good hand at building snow huts. But as I was now going to depart, I pitied my wife and my little children who were so attached to me, especially my only son who would not cease crying, as he preferred me to his mother. I said to the master of the ship, that I should like to take my little son and my daughter Augustina along with me to Upernivik, where they were to remain. There upon I left Kangersuatsiak, making my fourth visit to the north, with the Tuluks. When we put to sea and I looked at the people on shore, through the spy glass, I discovered my little daughter, Sophia Elizabeth, lying prostrate on the top of a big stone and staring at us. It was a sad sight which made me shed tears from pity. But I felt consoled by thinking that if no mischief should happen me or her, we should meet again. I also got sight of my wife standing amongst the crowd and looking after us. I said to myself with a sigh: 'May I return to them in good health.'"

The whole narrative is extremely interesting, from the curious insight it gives us into an Eskimo's way of thinking, and the manner in which civilized fashions strike him. He winds up with a pious wish, quite in keeping in the mouth of a person whose parents had quasi-clerical status by "serving the priests" and "minding the lamps":—

"And now I bid farewell to all who have read my little tale. I minded my business, sometimes under hardships, sometimes happy. May all who read this live happily in the name of the Lord! Written in the year 1877."

We are so deeply indebted to the distinguished President of the Royal Greenland Board of Trade for the toil he has imposed on himself in producing the translation of Hans's MS. that it may appear almost unreasonable to say that we could have wished more. Still, it is to be hoped that when a new edition of this tiny book is called for, we shall have also the original, or, at least, part of it. This will give to the narrative the philological value it at present lacks. It would also have been well if, instead of the map, which is useless for all purposes of reference, not having on it even all the names mentioned in the narrative, the reader had been favoured with a portrait of the author, and a fac-simile page of his handwriting.

History of the English People. By John Richard Green, M.A. Vols. I. and II. (Macmillan & Co.)

(Second Notice.)

THERE are not many portions of the first volume that are altogether new, but here and there telling additions are made. The conquest of Ireland in the time of Henry the Second is new, and supplies a great deficiency. Every one with a taste for the romantic must have regretted that Mr. Green gave such scant treatment to Richard's crusade and captivity. Those who missed the story will be glad to find it more handsomely treated in the new book. The account of the Barons' War and of Simon de Montfort is much fuller and more correct than before. We are glad to see that Mr. Green now adopts the view that Simon had already taken a prominent part in the constitutional struggle nearly twenty years before the Provisions of Oxford. "From this moment" (the year 1240), remarks Mr. Green, "his position was changed"; and he goes on to attribute to him, rightly, as we think, the efforts made in 1244 and other years for constitutional reform. Nearly double as much space as before is now devoted to the reign of Edward the First. The king's character is admirably drawn. In the statute "*Quia Emptores*" Mr. Green no longer sees "a blind desire to keep things as they were, an attempt to check the growth of a squirearchy," but rather "a great legislative act, one of those legislative efforts which mark the progress of a wide social revolution in the country at large." The advantages of chronological treatment are evident in dealing with the parliament of 1295, for which we are now prepared by an account of the Scotch crisis and other foreign troubles. Mr. Green has evidently studied Prof. Stubbs to good purpose. He appears, however, to differ from him on one important point. "It was of the lesser baronage alone," he says, "that the knights were in theory the representatives," but then, to be sure, he modifies this state-

ment soon after by the remark that "from the first moment of their attendance we find the knights regarded not as mere representatives of the baronage, but as knights of the shire." He is wrong in stating that "if there is any part in the parliamentary scheme of Edward the First which can be regarded as especially his own, it is his project for the representation of the ecclesiastical order." Prof. Stubbs in his '*Illustrative Documents*' gives a writ of summons to such representatives, issued some time before the battle of Evesham, which shows that the representation of the lower clergy formed part of de Montfort's scheme. Altogether the crisis of 1297 is hardly so well treated as that of 1258-65.

The additional matter in book iv. is more abundant than in any other part of the volume, but we cannot help regretting that while the title of the book is "*The Parliament*," more attention was not paid to the constitutional growth of the fourteenth century. It is very difficult to get a clear and connected idea of the steps by which the commons came to be what they were under the first Lancastrian kings, the leading estate of the realm. A review of this gradual advance would have been most useful, but instead of it we have the following, which gives a very wrong idea of the power of the Commons in 1327. "The deposition of Edward the Second proclaimed to the world the power which the English parliament had gained. In thirty years from their first assembly at Westminster the estates had wrested from the Crown the last relic of arbitrary taxation, had forced on it new ministers and a new system of government, had claimed a right of confirming the choice of its councillors and of punishing their misconduct, and had established the principle that redress of grievances precedes a grant of supply." Hardly one of these statements will bear examination. It was not really the parliament, but a baronial intrigue and a chance coalition of parties that deposed Edward. The estates had not wrested from the Crown the last relic of arbitrary taxation, for that remained to be done, as Mr. Green himself allows, by the act of 1362. The right of choosing the royal council had been repeatedly claimed before 1295, and the principle that redress of grievances precedes supply was established, if it ever was established before the seventeenth century, as early as 1225 or 1242. Again, the important events of 1340-1 receive scant consideration, and demands made by Lords and Commons together are placed to the credit of the Commons alone. In fact Mr. Green seems to us to antedate the triumph of the third estate by fifty years at least; consequently, when we come to the great victory of 1376, there is little to be made of it. But it was then that the Commons for the first time really took the initiative, and if the parliament of 1265 was the birthday of the Lower House, the Good Parliament was its coming of age. Further, the deposition of Richard the Second and the other constitutional events of that reign are hardly mentioned. This is the more extraordinary, as Mr. Green is writing a history of the "*People*." We should have thought these matters touched the "*People*" quite as nearly as Agincourt and the French wars, about which we have plenty of information. But the truth is that constitutional affairs are

rather dull reading, and not likely to attract the "*People*" of the present day.

It is pleasant to see that most of those small slips which were pointed out in the '*Short History*' are corrected in the new work. But we are still unable to agree with some of Mr. Green's conclusions. When he says, "*The dramatic temper of the Primate [Becket] flung its whole energy into the part he set himself to play*," the epithet throws a false colour over the whole of the Archbishop's life. Whether he was wrong or not, it was a strange kind of acting which led him to die in order to keep up the illusion. Again, Mr. Green surely makes too light of the effect of the murder. "So little did Henry suffer from the murder of Archbishop Thomas that the years which follow it form the grandest portion of his reign." But these grand years did not begin till after Henry was reconciled to the Pope, and had bought peace by a painful expiation. In the rebellion of 1174, as Mr. Green himself confesses a few pages on, "the murder of Archbishop Thomas still hung round Henry's neck," and Henry showed that he knew well enough what it was that added strength to the rebellion. King John is still, in Mr. Green's opinion, "*the ablest and most ruthless of the Plantagenets*," though how that praise can be given to him with Henry the Second and Edward the First in the same family it is hard to see. Clever he was, no doubt, but an able sovereign would hardly have sat still in Rouen while Philip was conquering Normandy. He could form and execute a military plan or a *coup-d'état*, but he could not conceive and carry out a policy. Mr. Green regards his submission to the Pope as a stroke of the highest statesmanship, and yet its immediate effect was to drive baronage and clergy into a despairing coalition against the king. The news of the battle of Bouvines is said to have "reached John in the midst of his triumphs in the south (of France) and to have scattered his hopes to the winds." But a prosaic comparison of dates will show that John had been foiled in his advance, and had retreated to Rochelle, nearly three weeks before that battle. His failure was not the result but the cause of the defeat of his allies.

It is a relief to find, on the other hand, that Mr. Green has altered his opinion about the Hundred Years' War, the results of which he described in his preface to the '*Short History*,' as "simply evil." These results are now traced in a passage which for terseness, vigour, and historical insight is not surpassed by any in the book.

"To England," says Mr. Green (p. 402), "it (the war) brought a social, a religious, and in the end a political revolution. . . . With it began the military renown of England: with it opened her struggle for the mastery of the seas. . . . The peculiar shape which English warfare assumed, the triumph of the yeoman and the archer over noble and knight, gave new force to the political advance of the Commons. On the other hand the misery of the war produced the first great open feud between labour and capital. The glory of Crecy and Poitiers was dearly bought by the upgrowth of English pauperism. . . . Nor was the contest of less import in the history of France. . . . It wrecked alike the feudal power of her noblesse, and the hopes of constitutional liberty which might have sprung from the emancipation of the peasant or the action of the burgher. It founded a royal despotism

which reached its height in Richelieu, and finally plunged France into the gulf of the Revolution."

It is to be wished that Mr. Green had given us more of these brilliant and philosophical summaries, these concise statements of cause and effect, which raise history from the rank of a more or less elaborate chronicle into the position of a genuine science.

In the second volume there is not so much that is different to notice, but more that is new. It covers the age in which foreign affairs are for the first time of primary importance in the history of the nation. Whatever may be said of the earlier periods, it is impossible to understand the Government of Henry the Eighth or Elizabeth without knowing a good deal of the events going on elsewhere. Yet comparatively slight attention was paid to them in the 'Short History.' Mr. Green now follows the example of Ranke rather than that of Macaulay, and has given to foreign politics something like their due share. Whether this is perfectly consistent with the title and avowed object of the book we will not attempt to decide, but there is no doubt that from the historical point of view it is a very great improvement. The relations of Edward the Fourth and Warwick with Louis of France, the elaborate policy of Wolsey and Cromwell, the still more complicated network of diplomacy in which Elizabeth delighted to conceal her plans, are laid before us clearly and in their proper order. The consequence is that we can now understand the opposition of Wolsey's parliaments and its important results, and appreciate the causes which gradually drove Elizabeth from the attitude of neutrality and toleration she had at first adopted. The reign of Edward the Sixth now occupies sixteen pages instead of two, and it is easy to see how the miserable failure of Somerset's foreign policy must have contributed to the reaction against his fanatical Protestantism. We could wish, however, that the contrast between Wolsey and Cromwell had been rather more clearly marked, and that more stress had been laid upon the fact that the one fell because he strove to bind his master to Rome, the other because he was too eager to tear him from it.

To turn to constitutional affairs, Mr. Green begins his second volume with an admirable summary of the causes that led to the enormous power of the Tudor monarchy. But why does he still insist that Edward the Fourth was the founder of that power? He seems to have the same sort of admiration for the ability and ruthlessness of Edward that he had for the ability and ruthlessness of John. But surely almost all the notes that distinguish the monarchy of the next century are wanting in Edward's reign. The spirit of feudalism was still alive; the civil wars were not over; the Roses were not united; the nobles were not crushed; the Church was still powerful; the Parliament was not yet awed into servility—witness its opposition under Richard the Third. True that "sums were extorted from the clergy; monopolies were sold; the confiscations of the civil war filled the royal exchequer; Edward did not disdain to turn merchant on his own account." But other kings before him had done as much as this; his "benevolences" were only another word for Henry the Third's "extortions." The true founder of the Tudor monarchy was Henry the Seventh,

with his close economy, his systematic depression of the nobles, his "peace at any price" policy, his dynastic marriages on which he bestowed as much care as if he had been a Habsburg. Again, in his wish to prove the continuity of Parliamentary influence, Mr. Green seems to exaggerate the strength of the Commons under Henry the Eighth. A section in which he describes the use Cromwell made of parliamentary forms in his most despotic acts is headed "Growth of Parliamentary Power." But surely it is a strange way of increasing the power of an institution to make it sign its own death-warrant—for such, but for other causes, the destruction of the Church would have been. It can hardly be said that Parliament and parliamentary government, in the true sense of the word, were in high repute under Walpole, and under Cromwell they were in much the same plight. Wholesale corruption and servility do not raise the power of a popular assembly, but bring it into universal contempt. The House of Commons did not recover the power it lost under Henry the Eighth till the spirit of Puritanism had freed it from the royal influence which was so nearly its ruin.

Perhaps the best part of the whole book is the reign of Elizabeth. Mr. Green has thrown himself into this period with even more than his usual sympathetic fervour. The eager life and warm colour, the freshness and vigour of that splendid time have given a wider scope to his talent for vivid and picturesque description than any other period could afford. The consequence is that we have a picture of this reign which in its way is unsurpassed. The character of Elizabeth herself is admirable, wrought out with the most careful and complete analysis, and illustrated with well-chosen anecdotes, so that we have a portrait of the woman and the queen which leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Green has, we are thankful to see, been so carried away by the personality he is describing that he forgets for a moment the "People" in the queen, but he can no doubt argue in self-defence that a "history of the people" would have been incomplete without a full account of her, who might, with a far deeper truth than Louis XIV., have said "L'État, c'est moi." Not that Mr. Green forgets the "People," for we have an excellent account of "the England of Elizabeth." But even here we are annoyed by his crochets. Why does he affix this name to a chapter which has hardly a word about social history in it, and stow away the real "England of Elizabeth" in a chapter headed "England and the Papacy," a title which belongs with equal justice to almost any other chapter in book vi. And why does he call his last "The England of Shakspeare" (which would seem to be pretty much the same as the England of Elizabeth), whereas it is really an essay on Elizabethan literature? These headings are most misleading. They are small blemishes, to be sure, but irritating where there is so much that is really excellent.

The merits of the work every one but the most tiresome stickler for minute accuracy will allow. Still, at the risk of appearing ungrateful, we must confess to a vague sense of something wanting in Mr. Green. It may be absurd to expect perfection, but we cannot help feeling that he has shown too much preference for the romantic and picturesque,

too little for the philosophical side, the deeper teaching of history. With all the advantages of a brilliant style and great originality, he might have dared to introduce, without risking the loss of popular favour, a greater proportion of what is generally considered dry, because scientific, reasoning, of inquiry into the unbroken chain of historical cause and effect, than would be compatible with the less intense vitality of other historians. It is a most laudable endeavour to popularize, without falsifying, history. Mr. Green has aimed at this and succeeded; but it is not the highest aim. It may be that, had he been a little less careful of popularity, he would have done more to dignify and advance the science of history than his present work, with all its manifold excellence, will do.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

A True Marriage. By Emily Spender. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

Pomeroy Abbey. By Mrs. Henry Wood. 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

Michelle, and Little Jack. By Frances Martin. (Hurst & Blackett.)

Love's Crosses. By the Author of 'Olive Varcoe.' 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

MRS. SPENDER'S 'A True Marriage' is a thoroughly pleasant and satisfactory book, without being so highly pitched, either in design or in execution, as to make too large a demand upon the critical faculty of its readers. It is a genuine story of human concerns and interests, such as are met with in the world of every-day experience rather than in the world of fancy or of fiction. Mrs. Spender writes as one who knows life from the fact of having lived, and of having watched with clear perception the life of her friends and acquaintance; and this gives the charm which mere imitators never possess. Her novel is more a work of nature than a work of art; it has its philosophy, and its picturesqueness, and its pathos, but there is no sign of elaboration in the characters and incidents whereby these are exhibited. It is refreshing to find a story which, making no great pretensions, enables us to realize its scenes without effort, and to recognize its men and women as cast in the same mould as ourselves. This is high praise, but it is due to all who have the skill and courage to take their models from nature direct. Scarcely a single character in 'A True Marriage' is other than natural, whilst the majority are truthfully and freshly drawn. It is plain enough, before the story has proceeded far, that Mrs. Spender has a purpose in her fiction, and is bent on carrying it out, in spite of the failure which has attended other attempts of a similar kind. Millicent Radnor and her sister are strong-minded young women, who leave their miserable home to earn their living in London; and, so far as their part in the story is concerned, it goes to prove that this is the best possible thing for girls to do when their parents cannot ensure them a wholesome or happy life. The promise held out in the first volume of 'A True Marriage' is hardly fulfilled in the characters of Millicent and her sister. They were worth a fuller development; but Mrs. Spender earns her readers' thanks for what she has actually accomplished.

A second edition of 'Pomeroy Abbey' was

already advertised before we had had time to read the tale. That is the most remarkable fact about the book. It is silly and extravagant, no doubt, beyond the ordinary silliness and extravagance of novels, but so have Mrs. Henry Wood's books been for a long time past. Novelists, at all events, cannot complain of a faithless public; once please it, and it will insist upon being pleased always. No dullness, no foolishness, no iteration can tire or estrange it. And so a second edition of 'Pomeroy Abbey' is demanded almost before the library labels can have had time to dry on the backs of the first. The book is constructed after a good old-fashioned model. There are ghosts and murders, ancestral halls, retainers, all the tinsel and false glare delightful to servant girls and sentimental shop boys, and the aristocratic society which such readers naturally demand. But it must be confessed that for a taste which is somewhat greedy, and not careful to notice improbabilities, the part of the plot which deals with ghosts is ingenious. There is undoubtedly a successful mystery, the solution of which cannot be guessed with absolute certainty, like most invented mysteries. But even if one likes ghostly mysteries, it is a heavy price to pay for one's pleasure to read 'Pomeroy Abbey.' There is not a chapter which does not bristle with vulgarity and mistake. Mrs. Henry Wood can hardly touch a subject without blundering. Vulgarity and pertness seem to be the only traits by which she can make character lifelike. She has perhaps never aimed at the delineation of character, but only attempted to make exciting stories. In 'Pomeroy Abbey' she has succeeded very ill even in this. The book must be taken as a whole, and the fact is that the third part is a mere narrative of an ordinary course of events, after the interest of the story, such as it is, has been brought to an end by the laying of the ghost. So that Mrs. Henry Wood has done what she can to repel her readers; but it is idle to hope that she has succeeded.

'Michelle' and 'Little Jack' are two prettily-written little stories, one of Béarnais peasants the other of English villagers. One opens rather sadly and ends cheerfully, the other takes the contrary course. One narrates the pre-matrimonial troubles of two young persons, the other the misfortunes of a married couple. There is a good touch in the latter, where the neighbours in the Surrey village (by the way, the author should not use real names, even though she chooses those of places so situated as to make them practically fictitious), with the malevolent stupidity which, we fear, is rather characteristic of the South-eastern rustic, set poor Mary Allan's troubles down to her marriage with a man from "the Sheers," i.e., in this case, the North. How the man from "the Sheers" heaps coals of fire on their heads may be read in the story itself.

The author of 'Olive Varcoe' has written a fervent love story, abounding with passages of great warmth, and including a most sensational homicide. The whole episode of "Poppy's" unfortunate passion is improbable as well as improper, and it is more on the complicated incidents of the story that the author relies than on any affinity to nature presented by the characters described. Luffincot's honest affection for the wild girl who so tries him is more successfully, and we would fain hope

more truly, depicted than the bullying airs of Captain Thurlstone, or the cold-blooded meanness of his rival Edgar Davenant. With this exception, and possibly that of the rather theatrical old fisherman whose "luck" is interwoven with that of Thurlstone and Lilian, there is no very agreeable or ideal character in the book.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. ANTHONY TROLLOPE has conceived the happy idea of reprinting his best novels, those in which Archdeacon Grantly and Mrs. Proudie figure, under the general title of 'The Chronicles of Barsetshire.' The first volume, containing *The Warden* and *Barchester Towers*, has been issued by Messrs. Smith & Elder.

The George Eliot Birthday Book is a pretty little volume containing extracts from George Eliot's writings, one or more being given for each day of the year. Messrs. W. Blackwood & Sons are the publishers.

We have received from the Religious Tract Society some Christmas Birthday Cards, distinguished by good colouring and tasteful design.

The example set by the Americans and adopted by Mr. Whitaker with his usual energy has now been followed, as we announced, by the Italians. The *Catalogo Collettivo della Libreria Italiana*, which Messrs. Dulau & Co. send us, is a more portly volume than we expected, and shows the activity of the Italian publishing trade. It would have been as well to have omitted catalogues of second-hand books. The volume is provided with a general index.

THE learned Keeper of the Archives of Geneva, M. Th. Dufour, has published, under the title of *Jean Jacques Rousseau et Madame de Warens*, several documents hitherto inedited which relate to the earlier portion of the 'Confessions.' He gives a plan of Ancey in 1730, showing the position of the house occupied by Madame de Warens. He also furnishes sundry bits of information: for instance, that the real name of M. Le Maître was Nicoloz—"le Maître" was the name of his post, i.e., choir master of the cathedral; that Mlle. de Graffenried died in 1748; that the famous excursion to Thônex took place on Thursday, June 29th, 1730, the one fine day of the week; that Claude Anet was twenty-eight when he died, &c.

We have received Prof. Delius's *Abhandlungen zu Shakspeare*. The volume contains a reprint of his essays contributed to the first twelve volumes of the 'Jahrbuch' of the German Shakspeare Society. The collection is preceded by an interesting preface.

We have on our table *A Handy Book upon the Law relating to Bills of Sale*, by F. M. Wetherfield (Cate).—*The Past, Present, and Future of England's Language*, by W. Marshall (Longmans).—*Chapters on the Science of Language*, by Prof. L. Delbos (Williams & Norgate).—*French Accidence and Minor Syntax*, by Prof. L. Delbos (Williams & Norgate).—*Hydrostatics and Pneumatics*, by P. Magnus (Longmans).—*Village Politics*, by C. W. Stubbs (Macmillan).—*A Primer of American Literature*, by C. F. Richardson (Trübner).—*The History and Principles of Weaving*, by A. Barlow (Low).—*Social Notes*, Vol. I., by S. C. Hall (Social Notes Office).—*Colonel Fougas' Mistake*, by E. About, translated by J. E. Maitland (Remington).—*The Curious Adventures of a Field Cricket*, by Dr. E. Candèze, translated by N. D'Anvers (Low).—*Evening News, and other Stories*, by J. J. Wright (Partridge).—*Wandering Blindfold*, by M. Albert (Griffith & Farran).—*Root and Flower*, by J. Palmer (Griffith & Farran).—*Shakspeare's King Henry the Fifth*, by S. Neil (Collins).—*Farnell's Hermit*, (The Central School Depot).—*Who Wrote It?* (Bell).—*The Human Life of Christ*, by S. Drew (Longmans).—*The Apocalypse*, by C. B. Waller (Kegan Paul).—*Ludovic Boerne*, by A. Weill (Paris, Dentu).—and *Les Colloques*

Scolaires du Seizième Siècle et leurs Auteurs, by L. Massebieau (Paris, Bonhoure).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Theology.**
 Carlyle's (Rev. J. E.) *South Africa and its Mission Fields*, 5/6.
 Dextier (Rev. H. V.) *The Unerring Guide*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Fausset's (Rev. A. R.) *The Englishman's Critical and Expository Bible Cyclopædia*, 4to. 18/6 cl.
 Howat's (Rev. H. T.) *Elisha, the Prophet of Peace*, cr. 8vo. 3/6.
 Lawson's (Rev. G.) *Helps to a Devout Life*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Lillingston's (Rev. F. A. C.) *Scriptural Marks of a True Believer*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
 Linton's (H.) *Sermons Preached in Church of St. Peter-le-Bailey, Oxford*, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Pascal's *Thoughts, Selection from*, translated by H. L. S. Lear, roy. 16mo. 3/6 cl.
 Ramage's (C. T.) *Bible Echoes in Ancient Classics*, cr. 8vo. 3/6.
 Sewell's (Rev. W.) *The Microscope of the New Testament*, edited by Rev. W. J. Crichton, 8vo. 14/6 cl.
 Wynne's (Rev. F. R.) *Plain Proofs of the Great Facts of Christianity*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
- Fine Art.**
 Cowper's *Task*, illustrated by B. Foster, post 4to. 10/6 cl.
 Doré *Gift-Book* (The), fol. 42/6 cl.
- Poetry.**
 Bonat's (H.) *Hymns of the Nativity*, roy. 16mo. 2/6 cl.
 Christian Year, large type, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Selkirk's (J. B.) *Essays and Aesthetics of Modern Poetry*, 7/6 cl.
- Philosophy.**
 De Quincey's *Works*, Supplementary Vol., Kant in his Miscellaneous Essays, &c., cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.
 Morell's (J. D.) *Philosophical Fragments Written during Intervals of Business*, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Spencer's (H.) *Education, Intellectual, Moral, and Physical*, cheap edit., cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
- History and Biography.**
 Chambers's (W.) *Stories of Old Families*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Hamilton's (A. H. A.) *Quarter Sessions from Queen Elizabeth to Queen Anne*, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
 Hendrik (Hans.) *Memoirs of, Written by Himself*, translated by Dr. H. Rink, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Jameson (A.) *Memoir of the Life of, by G. Macpherson*, 12/6.
 Latham's (R. G.) *Russian and Turk, from a Geographical, Ethnological, and Historical Point of View*, 8vo. 18/6 cl.
 Pearce's (W. C.) *History of Spain and Portugal*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
 Teignmouth's (Lord) *Reminiscences of Many Years*, 2 vols. 2/6.
 Walpole's (S.) *History of England from 1815*, 2 vols. 8vo. 3/6.
- Geography.**
 Clarke's (C. B.) *Class Book of Geography*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
 Vivian's (H. H.) *Notes of a Tour in America in 1877*, 8vo. 9/6 cl.
- Philology.**
 Arundines Sturl, *sive Eclogæ ex Mureto, &c.*, edited by R. E. Kennard, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Dickinson's (W. J.) *The Difficulties of English Grammar and Analysis Simplified*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
- Science.**
 Esmarch's (Dr. F.) *The Surgeon's Handbook of the Treatment of Wounded in War*, translated by H. H. Clutton, 28/6 cl.
 Fisher's (A. F.) *Deductions from Euclid and How to Work Them*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Hogg's (R.) *Herefordshire Pomona*, Part I., fol. 15/6 swd.
 Jenkins's (F.) *Healthy Houses*, 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Knott's (J. F.) *An Essay on the Pathology of the Æsophagus*, 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Kurz's (S.) *Forest Flora of British Burma*, 2 vols. 8vo. 30/6 cl.
 Magnus's (P.) *Hydrostatics and Pneumatics*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
 Proctor's (R. A.) *Pleasant Ways in Science*, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
 Thomson's (Sir W.) *Elasticity*, being the Article contributed to the 'Encyclopædia Britannica', 4to. 4/6 cl.
- General Literature.**
 Arthur's (T. S.) *Temperance Stories for the Young*, sm. 4to. 2/6.
 Belot's (A.) *A Tragedy Indeed*, a Novel, translated from the French by H. Dunton, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/6 cl.
 Brown's (J.) *Rab and his Friends*, with additional illustrations, 4to. 9/6 cl.
 Brown's (W.) *The Joyful Sound*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Child's (C. F.) *The Unseen Anchor*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Clark's (M. S.) *The Lost Legends of the Nursery Songs*, 5/6 cl.
 Daniel's (Rev. W. H.) *That Boy, Who Shall Have Him?* 5/6 cl.
 Elrington's (H.) *Is It True?* a Novel, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/6 cl.
 Garrett's (E.) *One New Year's Night*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Johnson's (S.) *Clever Boys of Our Time*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Kentish's (T.) *Pyrotechnist's Treasury*, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.
 Leaves from My Note-Book, by an ex-Officer of the Royal Irish Constabulary, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Melville's (G. J.) *Whyte's Roy's Wife*, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 My Sister Jeannie, a Novel, by George Sand, 12mo. 2/6 bds.
 Overend's (Mrs. C.) *The Young Deserter*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Payn's (J.) *By Proxy*, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Prince (The) of Nursery Playmates, fol. 6/6 bds.
 Recreations of a Country Parson, 2d Series, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Ross's (Mrs. E.) *Dora's Boy*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
 Shooting Adventures, Canoe Lore, and Sea-Fishing Trips, by "Wildfowler," "Snapshot," 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/6 cl.
 Shuttleworth's (Lady K.) *Ladder of Cowslips*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
 Stewart's (H.) *Our Redcoats and Blue Jackets*, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Through Rough Waters, by Author of 'The Rose Garden', 5/6.
 Trollope's (A.) *Chronicles of Barsetshire*, Vol. 1, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Wedding Ring (The), roy. 16mo. 2/6 cl.
 Wheeler's (Mrs. S. A.) *Daughters of Armenia*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Wilson's *Tales of the Borders*, 3 vols. 4to. 45/6 half bd.
 Yonge's (C. M.) *The Disturbing Element*, 12mo. 2/6 bds.

MR. DAVID LAING.

THE Edinburgh newspapers of last week record the death, on the 18th inst., of Mr. David Laing, who for a large portion of the century has been known for his extensive knowledge of historical and antiquarian matters connected with Scotland. Mr. Laing was in his eighty-sixth year. He was

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originally in business as a bookseller along with his father, and so far back as the early years of the century he is mentioned in Constable's correspondence as a prominent member of the bookselling fraternity. He continued to follow this occupation for fully thirty years, being among the last of the old-fashioned learned and scholarly men connected with the bookselling trade in Edinburgh. On giving up business he undertook the Librarianship of the Library of Writers to the Signet, and this office he has filled for a little over forty-one years. So that, if we except Dr. Martin Routh, we suppose it would be almost impossible to find a parallel for such an extended literary career. During all that time Mr. Laing had enjoyed almost uninterrupted good health, and retained to the last his keen, active interest in antiquarian pursuits. It was only the other day that he gave a dinner to a number of his brethren of the Society of Antiquaries on the occasion of the visit of his friend Prof. Daniel Wilson, of Toronto, to Edinburgh, and it was curious to see the old man sipping his Madeira talk as keenly as Lockhart in his 'Peter's Letters' records his doing some sixty or more years ago.

Mr. Laing's knowledge of bibliography was immense. Hardly anything of importance since the invention of printing had escaped his notice, and he was always ready with an answer to anyone who inquired about the best editions or the most perfect copies, and about their value. His chief interest, however, lay in the ecclesiastical and literary history of Scotland. Every source likely to afford information on these subjects had been ransacked by him; and his editions of Knox's works, Baillie's Letters (which, it may be remembered, Mr. Carlyle reviewed, evidently with high relish), Dunbar's and Henryson's poems, exhibit almost the perfection of accurate and deep-knowledged editing. It is greatly to be regretted that his notes on Wynton's Chronicle and his edition of Lyndsay even if left in a state at all approaching completeness—as to which we have no information—will at least not enjoy the benefit of his final supervision.

It would occupy many columns to give anything like a complete list of Mr. Laing's editorial labours. A large portion of the books of the Bannatyne Club were superintended by him in their passage through the press. His contributions to the *Transactions* of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland were almost without number, and in addition to these many volumes large and small were sent out by him either to the public, or to his friends in privately printed editions.

In private life Mr. Laing was one of the most estimable of men. Though not mixing much in society (in the usual sense of the word), he had a large circle of attached friends to whom he was endeared by his intelligence and generosity and genuine kindness of disposition, overlaid as it was by an occasional brusqueness and slight impatience of manner. He was always ready to impart whatever information he possessed, and even comparative strangers were often made free of his rare books, pamphlets, and MS. notes, collected frequently for purposes of his own, if he had any reason to think them likely to make good use of them. Prof. Cosmo Innes, on the occasion of Mr. Laing's receiving the degree of LL.D. from the Edinburgh University, remarked that, "no wise man will undertake literary work on Scotland without consulting with Mr. David Laing." And we rather think that hardly any one, whether wise or not, did undertake such work without conferring with Mr. Laing, often, it may be suspected, at greater length than was quite convenient to a man so busy as he was. Mr. Laing is understood to have left behind him a large collection of books and MSS., many of them of value and likely to be of the utmost use to future inquirers into Scottish historical questions. It is to be hoped that some means will be taken, either through the Scottish Society of Antiquaries or some other similar body, to preserve his library intact. It will be much to be regretted if such a collection is destined to be scattered at auction

among second-hand booksellers or curiosity-collectors.

DR. KIDD.

Norwich, Oct. 21, 1878.

In a letter from Mr. W. E. Hunter in the *Athenæum* for the 19th of October appears a most slanderous and ill-founded accusation against the late Rev. Thomas Kidd, M.A. I beg to give an unqualified contradiction to it. I was in the school at Lynn during the whole time that my father was master, and can and do testify that he was the most indulgent of masters, and utterly incapable of the conduct imputed to him.

RICHARD B. PORSON KIDD,
Vicar of Potters Heigham, Norfolk.

The Rev. R. B. Porson Kidd, my elder brother, has felt it his duty to vindicate the memory of our revered father from unjust and cruel aspersions. This vindication applies to the time during which the Rev. Thomas Kidd was head master of the Lynn Grammar School. I beg to add my testimony for the period during which Mr. Kidd, my father, was master successively of the Grammar Schools at Wymondham in Norfolk and at Norwich. I do not hesitate to state that to the very best of my knowledge and belief,—and I have a very minute recollection of events that occurred in my schoolboy days,—my father, in his government of the schools above mentioned, did not "cause the under masters to flog the boys for every offence, however slight, committed on any day of the week except Saturday,"—that he did not on Saturdays "administer to those boys who had already suffered castigation a double dose of the birch"; and more, that Mr. Kidd's rule and practice were not to use the birch rod except in punishment for flagrant offences against morality. Such offences, I am most happy to add, very rarely occurred.

JOHN T. D. KIDD, Retired Senior Chaplain
H.M.'s Indian Service.

POE AND HIS ENGLISH SCHOOLMASTER.

It is in my power to add a few explanatory data to Mr. W. E. Hunter's letter on the above subject, in the *Athenæum* of October the 19th. I will deal *seriatim* with the various points of his communication:—

1. The "somewhat grotesque illustration purporting to be the portrait of the 'Rev. John Bransby, M.A., Poe's English Schoolmaster, circa 1820,'" which is given in the so-called 'Works of Edgar Allan Poe,' and in 'Gill's Life,' both published by Messrs. Chatto & Windus, is declared by Mr. Hunter to be "utterly unlike Dr. Bransby," and he regards it as "a portrait of an old English divine flourishing certainly not later than the eighteenth century." He is quite right, both as regards the assertion and the surmise. It is not a portrait of Dr. Bransby, but is a wretched copy of a portrait of William Cook, D.D., *obit* 1797, that appears in Robinson's 'History and Antiquities of Stoke Newington'—a somewhat scarce work, published in 1820—whence, apparently, the publishers also derived "the ancient gateway." Why the portrait is held forth as Dr. Bransby's is not for me to explain.

2. The identification of the house in Stoke Newington with the place where Poe went to school is claimed both by Mr. Hotten and Mr. Curwen.* The "Elizabethan gables" fathered on Poe by Mr. Hotten I am unable to discover in any version of 'William Wilson' known to me.

3. In explanation of the assertion that Poe did really describe his English schoolhouse in the story of 'William Wilson' it should be stated that that story, as now printed, differs considerably from what it was when originally published, and that it is to the earliest—the more autobiographic though less artistic—versions that readers must go for corroborative evidence of the poet's veracity. In the very scarce 1840 edition of 'Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque' (my own copy was taken from Poe's portmanteau at his death),

vol. ii. p. 29, "William Wilson" describes his English schoolhouse as "a large, rambling, cottage built, and somewhat decayed building"; and, again, p. 30, as "old, irregular, and cottage built." These words faithfully describe that residence wherein the future poet passed the third lustrum of his life; but the transformation of the place into "a large, rambling, Elizabethan house" entirely destroyed the fidelity of the picture, however much it may have increased its romantic air. The house, it must be remembered, has been greatly altered since Poe's time. Baudelaire must not be held responsible for any assertions *pro* or *con*, having had Griswold only to rely upon.

4. In the early edition of 'Tales' above referred to it is worthy notice that the date of the birth of "William Wilson" and his *alter ego* is stated as Jan. 19th, 1809 (the poet's true birthday), whilst in later versions Jan. 19th, 1813, is given.

It is not beside the points at issue to remark that friends of Poe deem the thing prefixed to Mr. Hotten's *soi-disant* 'Works,' and which the publisher in his "Preliminary" says "is considered by those who remember the poet an excellent representation of him when living," as gross a caricature as is that of Dr. Bransby.

Mr. Hunter's interesting communication, it is to be hoped, will call forth further reminiscences of the quondam "Edgar Allan."

JOHN H. INGRAM.

AMYE ROBSART.

THE new volume, the seventeenth, of the *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* includes an important contribution (forty-six pages), from Canon Jackson, on 'Amye Robsart,' which comprises the results of a careful examination of many hitherto unpublished documents associated with that unfortunate lady. The writer surveys the ascertained facts of her history from her nuptials to her tragic death. In evidence of her legal connexion with Lord Robert Dudley, he prints for the first time the deed of settlement on the husband's side, dated 24th May, 1550, the original of which is at Longleat, as a correlative to the settlement on the lady's side, 15th May, 1550, by Sir John Robsart, her father, among the records in London. The well-known entry in Edward the Sixth's diary, June 4th, 1550, shows the marriage to have been not clandestine, but public and notorious. Appended to the paper is a translation of the original charter, also at Longleat, to convey possession of Kenilworth to Lord Robert Dudley. This charter is dated 20th June, 1563. Amye met with her death in 1560. Sir Walter Scott's moving story of the Countess of Leicester's interview with the Queen at Kenilworth has therefore, we need hardly say, no foundation in fact, Elizabeth's visit to the castle being in 1575. The document is signed by sixty-four witnesses, and Queen Elizabeth empowers Thomas Blunt and six other, "our attorneys," to take possession of the castle on behalf of our well beloved counsellor, Robert Dudley, knight, "to the use of himself and his heirs and assigns for ever." Mr. Pettigrew's assertion in his pamphlet on the subject that Sir Richard Verney's name "does not occur in any authentic document connected with Sir Robert Dudley or Amye Robsart, nor indeed does he appear to have had any real existence," is disproved by Canon Jackson's discovery at Longleat of a letter dated from Warwick, 20th April, 1560 (six months before Amye's death), addressed to Lord Robert Dudley, and signed Richard Verney. He was of Compton Verney, in Worcestershire, his family being now represented and place occupied by his descendant, Lord Willoughby de Broke. The Novelist's representation of Tony Forster's miserable fate is, of course, imaginative. As one of the principal receivers of Dudley's income and controllers of his magnificent household, Forster's office was to sign all the orders to tradespeople and to authenticate their accounts. Canon Jackson prints several of such documents, e.g.:—"Mrs. Montague, I pray you deliver to this bearer my Lord's hoeser so much crymsyne fringe

* Vide 'Sorrow and Song,' vol. ii. p. 97.

and lace as will tryme a paire of crymsyne hose for Mr. Phillipe Sidney, and so much purple as will tryme a paire of carnacon stammell hose and also so much blew and grene lace as will tryme ij payre of Lether hose. Thus fare ye well. Wryten the second of August, 1566. Yor frinde Antho. Forster." A copy also of an original letter from his loving master, "Leicester," to Antony refers to a visit of Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, for whose coming to Kenilworth there were to be furnished costly hangings to the banquetting hall, the dimensions and price ("xis. or xii. an ell") being specified: with directions for sufficient store of spicery and brilliant fireworks "against my chiefest day." Canon Jackson aims, but with hardly perfect success, to show that an amiable feeling constantly existed between Sir Robert Dudley and his lady. He rather, in effect, indicates a want of proof of direct ill-usage on the part of the husband to the wife than the maintenance of any warmth of affection between the two. Amye was at least expensively indulged, and she had a true feminine taste for finery. A mercer's bill, dated March, 1560, shows that my lady's embroidered velvet hat cost 3*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*., her velvet shoes 3*l*., her hood 35*s*., six dozen gold buttons of the "Spanish pattern," 30*l*., and her gowns of Spanish damask, her velvet kirtles, scarlet petticoats, crimson velvet bodices, ribbons, laces, ruffs, and fringes of silk and gold are named at proportionate prices, all of which must be multiplied by eight to be realized at present value. In journeying to Lincolnshire, London, Suffolk, and other places twelve horses were at her command; she was evidently, therefore, not always confined to Cumnor Hall. Mr. Froude, in summing up the evidence against Lord Dudley lays much stress upon the declaration of John Appleyard, half-brother to Amye Robsart, who let fall words to the effect "that he had not been satisfied with the verdict of the jury at her death, but that for the sake of Dudley he had covered the murder of his sister." "If Appleyard spoke the truth," says Mr. Froude, "there is no more to be said." Canon Jackson has discovered a letter from Sir Henry Nevill to Sir John Thynne, June 9th, 1567, in which it is said that "on Fryday in the Star Chamber was Appleyard brought forth, who showed himself a malitious beast, for he dyd confesse he accusyd my Lord of Lecyster only of malyses," &c. The cloud hanging over Leicester is still a dark one, and Canon Jackson has only partially succeeded in dispersing it. His arguments on the earl's behalf, however, in connexion with the fresh evidence he adduces from contemporary documents, are well worthy of consideration. Besides printing ten of these documents, Canon Jackson gives fac-similes of two letters of Amye Robsart. Sir Walter Scott's romance must take its place with the legend that Canon Jackson tells us lingered at Cumnor in his Oxford days. The old parish clerk reported that "Madam Dudley's ghost did use to walk in Cumnor Park," and that it took "nine parsons from Oxford to lay her," which at last they did in "Madam Dudley's Pond."

THE REV. CANON RAINES.

By the death of the Rev. Canon Raines, F.S.A., Lancashire has lost the most skilled antiquary that that county has ever produced. Although by birth a native of Yorkshire, having been born at Whitby, Feb. 22nd, 1805, he spent the greater part of his life in Lancashire, and devoted himself to preserving the ancient records of his adopted county. Being the son of a doctor, he was at first destined for his father's profession; but he ultimately decided to enter the Church, and was ordained in 1828. In 1832 he was appointed incumbent of Milnrow, then a village, now almost a town, about three miles from Rochdale. Here he remained for the rest of his life, and the present state of that place, with its large and handsome new church and the adjacent schools, together with the genuine sorrow manifested at his funeral, show that he did his duty well in the forty-six years that he lived there. But in spite of his

parochial cares, which increased as time went on, he began to investigate the past history of Lancashire, and to this task he ultimately devoted all his spare hours. When the Chetham Society was founded, in 1843, he was one of its most active workers, and up to the time of his death he manifested the greatest interest in its welfare. He edited in whole or in part nineteen volumes of that extensive series, the 103rd volume, which contains three short pieces by him, being issued to the members whilst he was on his death-bed. Of these works by far the most important are the four volumes of the 'Notitia Cestriensis,' a most valuable MS. account of the old diocese of Chester, written by Bishop Gastrell about 1720, and which was edited by Canon Raines with a fullness of illustration that has won him general admiration. The two volumes of the Lancashire Chantries, the Journal of Nicholas Assheton, the Stanley Papers, and particularly the most interesting biography of James Stanley, "the Martyr Earl," all attest the fullness of the late Canon's knowledge, and are good examples of his felicity of expression and general accuracy.

He was accustomed to enter his transcripts of ancient records into folio volumes, each containing about 300 pages, and the magnitude of his labours may be imagined when it is recollected that of these he has left fifty full volumes behind him. These Lancashire MSS., as he called them, written in that peculiarly neat hand with which all his correspondents are familiar, contain a vast mass of information of the greatest importance as regards the past history of Lancashire, the major part of which had it not been for his care would probably now have perished. Many years ago when the estate changed hands he had all the old Chaderton deeds and papers presented to him, which, it is believed, would have been otherwise destroyed, and from time to time other documents of much value found their way into his careful hands. With that liberality which was so striking a feature of his character, he was ever ready to assist others in their researches, and he has enriched posterity to an unknown extent by bequeathing the fifty volumes of his Lancashire MSS. and his deeds and charters to the Chetham Library, Manchester, where it is to be hoped that the fees will be mindful of the treasures so liberally left to them. For some years, at the least, these volumes will be placed under some little restriction, but will always be accessible to the genuine student of local or family history. It is probable that in an early volume the Chetham Society will publish an account of the late Canon's life, with extracts from his voluminous correspondence, in which will appear a full catalogue of the contents of his Lancashire MSS.

Canon Raines died at Scarborough on the 17th inst., in his seventy-fourth year, and was interred at Milnrow on Monday last. The vast concourse of people which thronged the church, in spite of the extreme inclemency of the weather, spoke for the affection which he had inspired amongst all classes. And in addition to this, whenever the history of Lancashire comes to be properly written, as it will no doubt be one day, those who care for the past history of their native or adopted county will be thankful that there was found a man, skilled and laborious, who devoted the best years of a long life to rescuing from the all-devouring hand of time so much that will ever be most valuable. When others, now well known, are forgotten, the name of Canon Raines will be remembered with gratitude.

THE PRUSSIAN STATE PAPERS.

STUDENTS are aware that little has hitherto been done in the way of printing the records contained in the Prussian State Paper Office. Between 1815 and 1878 only some twenty volumes were issued, most of them confined to mediæval history. Herr von Sybel, the present head of the Prussian Record Office, has obtained an increased grant from the Landtag, and, according to a prospectus sent to us by Messrs. Dulau, he intends to publish

three volumes this year and four each year after. Those to be brought out this year are

Preussen und die katholische Kirche seit 1640. Nach den Acten des Geheimen Staatsarchivs. By Dr. Max Lehmann. Vol. I. (two other vols. to follow.)

König Friedrich Wilhelm I. und seine Thätigkeit für die Landescultur in Preussen. Nach den Acten des Geheimen Staatsarchivs. By Dr. R. Stadelmann.

Hessisches Urkundenbuch. Edited by Drs. Künnecke, Wyss, and Reimer. Vol. I.

Those in progress for future years are—

In general German and Prussian History:—
Geschichte des Deutschen Ordens in Preussen bis 1525. Nach den Acten vornehmlich des Königsberger Archivs. By Prof. H. Floto. 3 vols.

Geschichte Herzog Albrechts von Preussen und der Säkularisation des Ordenslandes. By Staatsarchivar Dr. Philippi. 1 vol.

Briefwechsel Landgraf Philipp des Grossmüthigen von Hessen mit Bucer. Edited by Dr. Leuz. 1 vol.

Die Gegenreformation in Westphalen. Actenstücke und Erläuterungen. Collected by Dr. Keller. 3 vols.

Brandenburger und Hannoverische Politik in der zweiten Hälfte des siebenzehnten Jahrhunderts. Nach den Acten vornehmlich des Hannoverischen Archivs. By Dr. Köcher. 4 vols.

Memoiren der Churfürstin Sophie von Hannover. Edited by the same. 1 vol.

Sammlung der Preussischen Staatsverträge im 18. Jahrhundert. With Notes by Dr. Posner and Dr. Hagemann. 5 to 6 vols.

Frédéric II., Histoire de mon Temps. First hitherto unprinted draft of 1746. Edited by Dr. Posner. 1 vol.

Preussische Gesandtschaftsberichte aus Paris, 1774 bis 1806. Edited by Dr. Baillet. 4 vols.

Preussens auswärtige Politik 1808 bis 1815. Urkunden und Darstellung. Edited by Dr. Hassel. 5 to 6 vols.

Territorial History, &c.:—
Hessisches Urkundenbuch. Edited by Drs. Künnecke, Wyss, and Reimer. Vols. ii. to ix.

Urkundenbuch des Stiftes Hildesheim. Edited by Dr. Janicke. 3 vols.

Die ältesten Grodbücher Grosspolens. Edited by Dr. Clauswitz. 2 vols.

Ostfriesische Geschichtsquellen. Edited by Dr. Sauer. 2 vols.

Kämpfe zwischen Cleve und Cöln im 15. Jahrhundert. Nach archivalischen Quellen dargestellt. By Dr. Wilms. 2 vols.

Historisch-geographisches Wörterbuch der Regierungsbezirke Coblenz und Trier. By Archivrat von Eltester. 2 vols.

Historisch-geographisches Wörterbuch der Regierungsbezirke Cöln, Düsseldorf, und Aachen. Edited by the Officers of the Record Office of Düsseldorf. 2 to 3 vols.

Lehrbuch der historischen Geographie des Deutschen Reiches. By Dr. Theodor Menke. 8 vols.

Literary Gossip.

LADY ANNE BLUNT, whose 'Winter Residence among the Bedouin Arabs' is announced as in the press, is entitled by descent to be an authoress, since she is the grand-daughter of Lord Byron. Having previously explored the Sahara south of the Atlas chain, she spent last winter with her husband among the wandering Arabs of the Syrian desert. Admitted by their hosts to the privileges not only of hospitality but of sworn brotherhood, the travellers lived with them in their tents, moved with their encampments, and were even spectators of some of their feuds and fights. Although the chief tribes were in arms, and war was raging in the desert at the time, the English visitors were honoured as friends, protected by a royal escort, and admitted to all the privacies of tent life. Mr. Blunt has contributed several chapters on the manners, laws, superstitions, &c., of the Arabs, and on the various breeds of Arab horses, their pedigrees and capabilities.

AN interesting relic of Shelley has lately reached London—a spacious sofa, large enough for a bed. It has for many years past been in the possession of the Barone Kirkup, the aged English painter settled in Florence, and it is now the property of Mr. Trelawny, but remains deposited at the residence of Mr. William M. Rossetti. It is of Italian manufacture, and of

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simple but shapely form, with balustraded sides and back. The question has been raised whether this is the sofa which Shelley ordinarily used both by day and night in Pisa, or whether it was purchased by him in his last days, to serve as part of the furniture of Leigh Hunt's Pisan apartments. Anyhow, its authenticity as a relic of the author of 'Epipsychidion' is beyond all cavil.

THE 'Records of a Girlhood,' by Mrs. Frances Ann Kemble, better known as "Fanny Kemble," which we have already announced, contains incidental descriptions of things and people in London society fifty years ago. We get a glimpse of Mrs. Fitzherbert and the Prince Regent; of the French exiles; of great actors like Talma, Liston, Young, and Mathews, and of course the Kembles; of Mr. Alfred Tennyson; of Mario when Marquis of Candia, and before he became a popular singer; of Arthur Hallam, John Sterling, Mrs. Norton, Theodore Hook, Lady Caroline Lamb, Lord Melbourne, Lady Morgan, Lady Cork, and of others who were more or less notable personages about the time of the first Reform Bill. The book ends at the time of the author's marriage.

THERE is reason to believe that the Corpus Professorship of Jurisprudence at Oxford, which Sir Henry Sumner Maine resigns at the end of this year, will be converted into a Professorship of Constitutional Law and Legal History. Whatever may be the reasons for the change, the new professor will at least escape the formidable task of competing, as it were, with Sir H. Maine by following him under the same conditions.

MR. GLADSTONE will contribute a paper on 'Electoral Facts' to the forthcoming (November) number of the *Nineteenth Century*. Mr. Robert Lowe, Prof. Ruskin, Prof. Tyndall, and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe are also among the contributors.

THE *Contemporary Review* for November will contain an article entitled 'What is Going on at the Vatican: a Voice from Rome.' It will also contain papers on the Alcohol Question by Sir James Paget, Dr. T. Lauder Brunton, and Dr. Albert J. Bernays; and contributions by Prof. Max Müller, Dr. Littledale, Mr. Frederic Harrison, M. Lenormant, Prof. Jebb, and others.

WE are glad that, according to the last accounts, Mr. Hepworth Dixon is making satisfactory progress towards recovery from his recent accident. He is not yet able to write, but his general health is good, and he has started on a voyage round Cyprus in an ironclad.

MR. THOMAS HARDY'S novel, 'The Return of the Native,' will shortly be published by Messrs. Smith & Elder. A bird's-eye view of the scene of the story will be given, to show at a glance the bearings of the different hills, paths, and other spots on which the action takes place.

MR. C. L. DODGSON, Senior Student and Mathematical Lecturer of Christ Church, has nearly finished a volume, which will be out by the end of November, and will be called 'Euclid and his Modern Rivals.' The book will contain reviews of several modern geometries. In the Preface the author says:—

"The object of this book is to prove, first, that for purposes of teaching and examining in ele-

mentary geometry it is essential to make use of one manual only; secondly, that there is good reason for retaining, in all its essential features, and especially in the sequence and numbering of propositions and the treatment of parallels, the manual of Euclid; thirdly, that no sufficient reason has been shown for preferring to it any one of the modern manuals which have been offered as substitutes. I have thrown it into the dramatic form, partly because it seemed a better way of exhibiting in alternation the arguments on the two sides of the question, partly that I might feel myself at liberty to treat it in a lighter style than would have been suitable to an essay, and thus to make it a little less tedious and more acceptable to unsentient readers."

THE early history of printing is receiving such increased attention that anything illustrating its first appearance in one of the Universities can hardly be without interest. It is pleasant to learn therefore that Messrs. Macmillan & Co., of Cambridge, propose to issue by subscription small fac-simile editions of some of the books produced by John Siberch, the first Cambridge printer. The first to appear will be Linacre's translation of Galen, 'De Temperamentis,' printed in 1521, which is to be carefully reproduced by photolithography. The volume will contain a portrait of Linacre, and an introduction by J. F. Payne, M.B., F.R.C.P., Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, and will be issued to subscribers at one guinea. Should this first venture be well received Messrs. Macmillan & Co. propose further to issue similar reproductions of the seven remaining books of Siberch, viz., Erasmus, 'Libellus de Conscriptis Epistolis,' 1521; Bp. John Fisher, Concio in Joh. xv. 26, 1521; Henry Bullock, 'Lepidissimum Luciani Opusc.,' &c., Henrico Bullock interprete, 1521; Archbishop Baldwin, 'De venerabili ac divinissimo Altaris Sacramento Sermo,' 1521; 'Cujusdam fidelis Xtiani Epistola ad Xtianos omnes,' &c., 1521; Henry Bullock, 'Oratio Habita Cantabrigiæ,' 1521; and 'Papyrii Geminis (sic) Eleatis Hermathena, seu de eloquentiâ,' 1522. These seven books will be issued to subscribers at a cost of three guineas.

THE Women's Suffrage Society are calling on such women as have distinguished themselves as authors, artists, doctors, schoolmistresses, to express in a few lines their conviction that the suffrage ought to be extended to all unmarried women who are ratepayers. The Society is publishing these in the form of leaflets, and it has already obtained answers from a large number of women whose names are honourably before the world.

THE lecture season of the London Institution will be opened on December 2nd, by Prof. Huxley, with a lecture on 'The Elements of Psychology.' The other lectures will be given by Sir Edmund Beckett (Meaning and Origin of Laws of Nature); Canon Farrar (Jewish Rabbis and the Talmud); Profs. Armstrong (Modern Chemical Theory), Barrett (on Mr. Edison's inventions), Bentley (The Life of a Plant), Boyd Dawkins (Britain in the later Stone-Age), Flower (Wingless Birds), Guthrie (Fixed Water), Judd (Formation of the Alps), Maudsley (Organization and Moral Feeling), Morley (The English Stage as it has been, and as it is), Rolleston (Man's Power of Modifying External Nature; and, Prehistoric Fauna and Flora), and Monier Williams (Indian Home-Life); Doctors Milner Fothergill (Moral Lessons of Physiology) and B. W.

Richardson (Health and Recreation); Messrs. Comyns Carr (Present Tendencies of English Art), Dannreuther (Living Pianoforte Composers), F. Darwin (Self-Defence among Plants), Frederic Harrison (The Abuse of Books), B. Waterhouse Hawkins (The Age of Dragons), E. B. Nicholson (English Pronunciation), F. I. Palmer (History of the Ironclad), Pauer (English Composers for Virginal and Harpsichord), Ebenezer Prout (The Harmonium), R. A. Proctor (Life in Other Worlds), Ralston (A Storytelling), R. H. Scott (Life of a Storm), H. A. Severn (Theory of Combustion and History of Artificial Illumination), and E. B. Tylor (Good and Bad Etymology).

A COURSE of lectures somewhat novel in their aim and character has been commenced on Ancient History (Greece, Rome, and the Oriental nations) at King's College, Strand, by Mr. George C. Warr, Classical Lecturer in the College. The object is to give a complete and connected view of the ancient world, and the lectures will only require to be supplemented by reading the ordinary short textbooks. They are intended chiefly for those who are engaged in business during the day. The class meets once a week, on Wednesday, at 6 P.M., so that those who are so occupied may attend on their way from the City. The lectures on Greek Art and Oriental History will be specially designed to illustrate the monuments in the British Museum.

MR. JOAQUIN MILLER is to lecture in America during the coming or current season on 'Literary London'; also on 'What is Poetry?' and on 'Old and New Rome.'

MR. JOHN PAYNE is not contented with the laurels which he has won as a translator by his version of Villon's Poems, recently issued to subscribers. He has undertaken the translation of the 'Thousand and One Nights,' without any omission or retrenchment, from the original Arabic, and has already completed the larger portion of this huge task. It is undoubtedly one of the most important literary enterprises of our day.

MR. T. G. STEVENSON, of Edinburgh, has in the press an account of the life and labours of the late Dr. David Laing from the year 1815 to 1878. We have given a sketch of Dr. Laing's career in another column.

MR. HENRY HEGINBOTHAM expects to complete his history of Stockport, ancient and modern, which has been in progress since 1876, in the course of next year. It will consist of five parts, and will contain upwards of a hundred illustrations, twenty-five of which will be heliotypes. The work is intended to give a full history of the town and neighbourhood of Stockport from a very early period to the present time.

M. ÉMILE ZOLA has begun, in *Le Voltaire*, a new Paris daily paper, a weekly theatrical and literary review.

MR. G. G. WALMSLEY, of Liverpool, is publishing by subscription—the first part being just issued—'Pictorial Relics of Ancient Liverpool,' by Mr. W. G. Herdman. The work will be completed in twenty-four monthly parts, forming two folio volumes. The illustrations, seventy-two in number, will be produced by the permanent autotype process. The impression is to consist of 1,000 copies.

It is rumoured that M. Gustave Doré will

shortly visit America, and inspect some of its wonders—such as the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky, the Rocky Mountains, the Yosemite Valley, and Niagara.

AN introductory lecture which Prof. Fawcett lately delivered at Cambridge will be published in the forthcoming *Fortnightly*, under the title of 'The Recent Development of Socialism in Germany and the United States.'

MR. ROBERT CUSHING has finished a clay model for the colossal bust of Thomas Moore, to be erected in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, United States. There is said to be a smile "lurking about the mouth."

THE prose translation of the *Odyssey* upon which Mr. S. H. Butcher, Fellow of University College, Oxford, and Mr. Andrew Lang, Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, have for some time past been working, is now in the press, and will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. before Christmas.

THE *Examiner*, which was purchased a short time ago by the Earl of Rosebery, is again changing hands.

THE *Tyldesley Journal* announces the death of the Rev. John Saul, D.D., on the 11th inst., in his eighty-fourth year. The reverend gentleman has left behind him an unpublished Sanscrit vocabulary, having devoted much of his time to the study of Oriental literature.

AMONG the French books of the week are 'L'Étoile de Jean,' by M. Mario Uchar; 'Athènes, Rome, Paris, l'Histoire et les Mœurs,' by M. Henry Houssaye; and 'Étude Diplomatique sur la Guerre de Crimée (1852 à 1856),' by C'n Ancien Diplomate, two vols., a book written fifteen years ago, and printed in 1874, but not published till now. The following philological works have appeared recently in Paris: 'Grammaire Grecque Moderne,' by Émile Legrand, followed by the 'Panorama de la Grèce' of Alexander Soutsos; a 'Bibliotheca Americana: Histoire, Géographie, Voyages, Archéologie et Linguistique des deux Amériques et des îles Philippines,' by Ch. Leclerc, a catalogue raisonné of 2,638 works relating to America; a translation of 'Ollantai,' the Quechua drama, by Pacheco Zagarra; a 'Grammatica, Catecismo i Vocabulario de la Lengua Goajira,' by R. Celedon; and an 'Analyse Étymologique des Racines de la Langue Latine,' by Campos Leyza.

MESSRS. SAMUEL TINSLEY & Co. will shortly publish a new novel in three volumes, by Florence Marryat, entitled 'Her World against a Lie.'

THE posthumous work on Hebrew bibliography by Rabbi Isaac ben-Jacob will be published at Wilna by the author's son. It is to be hoped that it will be complete in its accounts of publications in Russia and Poland, concerning which there is little information in the latest books on Hebrew bibliography.

ANCIENT inventories are valuable for the study of manners and customs prevalent in past centuries. M. A. Menno has just published with introduction and glossary 'Arredi ed Anni di Sinibaldo Fieschi' (Genoa, Tipografia of the Institute for Deaf and Dumb, 8vo.). This curious document gives us an insight into the luxury and wealth of a Genoese nobleman of the sixteenth century.

THE Dean of Westminster has been extremely well received during his tour in the

United States. His admirers, however, have not all shown themselves quite familiar with the Dean's claims to distinction. It is said that he received an offer of a considerable sum of money if he would give a lecture on his *African Explorations* in a Western city!

WE learn from No. 9 of *De Indische Letterbode* for the current year that the printing of the late C. F. Winter's Kavi-Javanese dictionary, edited and annotated by Dr. H. N. van der Tuuk, was in April last approaching completion. Eight-and-twenty sheets were then in type. The great Javanese-Dutch dictionary by J. A. Wilkens is still in progress. The second volume of H. von de Wall's Malay-Dutch dictionary is in the press. The Sundanese dictionary by H. J. Oosting is also in the printer's hands; it will fill about forty sheets. Dr. H. N. van der Tuuk has submitted to the Director of Public Instruction at Batavia a specimen of his forthcoming Kavi-Balinese dictionary, and has sent to press his Balinese reader.

MR. E. B. NICHOLSON, the librarian of the London Institution, has completed a work on the lost 'Gospel according to the Hebrews,' including of course an edition of its fragments. The volume, which also deals with many other debated subjects in critical theology, will shortly be published.

A CORRESPONDENT writes, with reference to our announcement of a translation into Italian of Mr. D. G. Rossetti's 'Hand and Soul,' that that story was not only printed in the *Germ*—or *Art and Poetry*, as the periodical was eventually styled—but was, also, published in the *Fortnightly Review* for December, 1870, under the same title, but with a few variations and omissions from the earlier version. The translation is from the later version, and its author is Prof. Luigi Gamberale, of Campobasso.

MESSRS. BAGSTER & SONS received a silver medal at the Paris Exhibition, we are glad to see, not a bronze one as was originally decided, for printing, and also honourable mention for binding.

IT seems that the Athenæum Club has no copy of the original list of the members, so Mr. J. Lettsom Elliot, of the Albany, one of the two members surviving of those elected at the first meeting of the committee held at Mr. Jekyll's house in Spring Gardens, February 16th, 1824, has reprinted his probably unique copy. The list is dated June 22nd, 1824. On the committee figure Mr. Decimus Burton, who still survives; Lord Aberdeen, Chantrey, Croker, Sir Humphrey Davy, G. Agar Ellis, Sir H. Halford, Richard Heber, Lord Lansdowne, Sir T. Lawrence, Sir J. Mackintosh, Moore, Lord Palmerston, W. S. Rose, Sir W. Scott, the younger Smirke, Lord Spencer, Dr. Thomas Young, &c.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"Cambridge has not suffered of late years from the extortions of college cooks, butlers, and tradesmen so much as Oxford, and I suppose that is why so few radical efforts for improvement have been made by college authorities here. St. John's College is now making an experiment analogous to that of Keble College. One of the younger fellows, Mr. Garnett, whose abilities are as conspicuous in business as in experimental science, and to whose efforts the rapid organization of the Cavendish Laboratory is very considerably due, has been elected steward. At the same time the

agreement with the college cook terminated, and it was arranged that Mr. Garnett should reorganize the kitchens, and make the commissariat a college department, all servants being directly engaged by the college, and the entire system being superintended by the steward. It has been found up to the present that many extravagances have been repressed, various loopholes of waste and loss have been stopped, better and more varied dinners in hall can be supplied, and orders from undergraduates' rooms can be undertaken at a very important reduction on old prices. Moreover, a grocery store has been opened in the college for the supply of sound groceries at a fair price to college residents; and, lastly, an attempt is being made to get up a common breakfast in hall. Plain breakfast is offered at sixpence a head, including porridge and marmalade, besides bread and butter; cold meat at threepence and fourpence a plate; and other things at discretion. The hour will be fixed as may be most convenient; and guests may be taken in on giving half-an-hour's notice. Whether undergraduates will consent to turn out of bed at an hour they have fixed so long before as a dozen hours, and will undertake the discomfort of going across a court to breakfast, remains to be seen; but at any rate they habitually do so to go to their own breakfast parties. The whole undertaking is a bold experiment, the course of which will be watched with interest."

SCIENCE

Popular Astronomy. By Simon Newcomb, LL.D. (Macmillan & Co.)

IT is not easy to express the satisfaction with which we have looked through this work of Prof. Newcomb, the well-known Washington astronomer, which is now laid before the English public through Messrs. Macmillan. May it become as popular and as widely read by the general readers of science as the author desires, whose object (he tells them in the Preface) is to "present them with a condensed view of the history, methods, and results of astronomical research, especially in those fields which are of most popular and philosophic interest at the present day, couched in such language as to be intelligible without mathematical study." Within the lines thus marked out the work before us is very complete in its range and accuracy of statement, consisting, as it does, of 566 octavo pages, and illustrated with 112 engravings and five excellent star-maps. The arrangement of the matter, so especially important in an astronomical treatise, is logical and clear. In the first part the system of the heavens is explained in its historical development under the three heads of ancient astronomy and the mere apparent motions of the heavenly bodies, the Copernican system or their true motions, and the theory which connects these together in the great Newtonian law of universal gravitation. The second part treats of practical astronomy, astronomical instruments and measurements, in which prominence is naturally given to a tolerably full account of the methods used in determining the sun's parallax by the Transits of Venus. Parts iii. and iv. contain a *résumé* of astronomical results regarding, first, the solar system, and, secondly, the stellar universe. These will, of course, be considered the most interesting parts by the general reader; and it would not be easy to find their subjects treated in a manner at the same time more complete and better adapted to his purpose. The chapter on the sun gives a very full exposition of the great results recently obtained on the physical constitution of this all-important member of our system; and in response to the author's wish to present the latest views of the most distinguished investigators of solar phenomena in their own words, four of these gentlemen—the late Father Secchi, of Rome, M. Faye, of Paris, Prof. Young, of Dartmouth College, U.S., and Prof. Langley, of the Allegheny Observatory,—furnished him with papers which he has incorporated in this chapter. The work has evidently,

in addition to its other merits, been prepared with great care, and the critics, an habitually fault-finding race, will not be able to put their hands upon many errors, even of a trifling nature. Nevertheless, we may, perhaps, just indicate to the author one or two which appear to have escaped his notice. Thus at the top of page 179 it seems to be implied that Maskelyne was Astronomer-Royal in 1761, when Bradley was actually present as such, though in failing health, at the observation of the visible part of the Transit of Venus. Page 346, "an English observer, named Ball," should be "two English observers of the name of Ball," the text as it stands taking from one of the brothers at Minehead his share of the discovery of the division in Saturn's ring. In page 378, giving an account of the discovery of the splitting of Biela's Comet, it would have been, perhaps, preferable (at any rate in an English edition) to speak of the "Naval" as the "Washington" Observatory; Maury's name surely called for mention, as well as the fact that Mr. Hind had even before that noticed an indication of the approaching strange disruption. We think that in mentioning (page 432) the discovery of the variable star in Corona (T Coronæ) in 1866, the name of Mr. Birmingham, of Tuam, as the probable first observer, should have appeared. At page 416, line 7, by a somewhat singular *lapsus plume*, Arc-turus, instead of Antares, is called the brightest star in the constellation Scorpion. In the first page (559) of the Index, the names of Bernouilli and Bianchini are mis-spelled. Even such errors are comparatively very rare. But we must confess some surprise at the remark concerning the calendar (page 50) that "the common sense of the people in this instance" (opposing the change of style to the Gregorian) "was more nearly right than the wisdom of the learned," and the concluding suggestion of a "return to the old mode of reckoning." Surely, independently of "Easter," the calendar ought to be kept right in accordance with modern knowledge of the true length of the year.

Sketches of African Scenery from Zanzibar to the Victoria Nyanza (Church Missionary Society) consists of a series of chromolithographs, for the most part from four original drawings by the late Mr. Thomas O'Neill, of the Victoria Nyanza Mission. These carefully executed sketches convey a vivid notion of African scenery. They are accompanied by extracts from Mr. O'Neill's journal, which will prove acceptable to those interested in missionary work in Africa and geographical exploration.

Practical Chemistry for Medical Students. By M. M. P. Muir. (Macmillan & Co.)

"CRAMMING" seems to have become an acknowledged method in science teaching, if not, indeed, in every kind of teaching. It would be idle to attempt to censure the evil, considering the extent to which it has grown and continues growing in the sunshine of official approval; it is enough to state simply that such and such a book is of that class. The little work above named is, however, a particularly neat specimen of "cram." It enables any one desirous of preparing for examination in the chemistry required for "the first M.B." to do so without requiring him to go previously through a course of general chemistry. To start, as is done here, the practical work with tests distinguishing among six metals at once, instead of passing first each metal through a succession of the characteristic tests, is a method hardly beneficial to the student's mind. The author pleads that there is not sufficient time allotted to chemistry in the medical student's curriculum. This may be so, but the remedy proposed is worse than the ill. The right cure would be to compel students to acquire the foundations of the experimental sciences before allowing them to enter upon the work of a professional life. Surely it is the duty of men who, like the author, are attached to a great university to help to bring about this most needed reform.

THE ECLIPSE OF 1851.
Royal Observatory, Greenwich, Oct. 22, 1878.

In a communication by Mr. Ranyard to the *Athenæum* of October 19th, page 501, last column, seventh line, it is stated that "Mr. Dunkin, during the eclipse of 1851, observed the corona through [a] glass prism without slit." This statement is incorrect, but no blame whatever attaches to Mr. Ranyard; the fault, such as it is, is entirely mine.

Copy of my instructions to Mr. Dunkin is preserved at the Royal Observatory; the paragraphs which relate to the spectral observation of the corona are the following:—

"Endeavour to fix on the object-end of the telescope a piece of pasteboard (its plane parallel to the plane of the object-glass) with a narrow vertical chink, so that, when the telescope is pointed towards the sun, the light from the sun through the chink will pass to the eye-end of the tube, and a prism set up endways on the eye-end will be sure to receive the light."

"For an instant use the glass prism with the naked eye to view the corona-light through the pasteboard chink, and see whether there is anything peculiar in the colour."

These instructions were most strictly carried out by Mr. Dunkin.

The account printed in the *Memoirs* of the Royal Astronomical Society is a copy of the Report rendered to me by Mr. Dunkin. Mr. Dunkin naturally omitted to cite the paragraphs of my instructions, with which I must necessarily be acquainted, but it would have been proper for me, in communicating his report to the Royal Astronomical Society, to have explained some of these details.

Mr. Dunkin's attention had been called by Prof. Langberg to a possible irregularity of illumination in the green part of the spectrum; and from this originated the remark in the Report "green being certainly as bright as any other colour."

G. B. AIRY.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

MESSRS. ALLEN & Co. advertise as in the press 'Travels in Khorassan,' by Col. C. M. Macgregor, C.S.I., Deputy Quartermaster-General of the Indian Army. Col. Macgregor travelled on his own account in Khorassan in 1875, and intended first to visit Herat, and afterwards to proceed by a route hitherto unexplored by any European straight across the mountains from Herat to Kabul. He had been officially employed during several previous years in compiling a gazetteer of the north-west frontier of India, and had learned how little was known of the routes which lead into Afghanistan from the north and north-west of that country. He examined carefully the northern portion of the Perso-Afghan frontier which he had crossed, but when within a mile or two of Herat he was rudely expelled the country. He then resolved to try and penetrate into the valley of the Murghab and reach Herat from the north, when he was suddenly stopped, just as he was starting for Merv, by a telegram conveying the Viceroy's orders that he was to enter neither Afghanistan nor Turkestan. In fact, throughout he was hindered by the crass stupidity of the Indian Government. He, however, nevertheless continued to collect a mass of new and most valuable information about Khorassan, Merv, and the Perso-Afghan frontier, illustrated by many sketches taken on the spot.

The awards at the Paris Exhibition to British exhibitors of maps and geographical and cosmographical apparatus are as follows: Gold Medal, Mr. E. Stanford; Silver Medal, Messrs. W. & A. K. Johnston; Bronze, Messrs. Philip & Son; Honourable Mention, Mr. Bartholomew.

Laconically we are informed by telegraph that Capt. Nordenskiöld's exploring vessel, the Vega, arrived at the mouth of the Lena on August 27th last, and, having parted from her tender, the Lena (Capt. Johannessen), proceeded on her way to Bering Strait. The Swedish explorer left Gothenburg on July 4th, passed through Yugor Strait into the Kara Sea, on July 30th, and reached Port

Dickson, at the mouth of the Yenisei, on August 6th. Thence, round Cape Chelyuskin, the northernmost cape of Asia, to the River Lena is a distance of about 900 miles, which was accomplished in twenty-one days. From the Lena to Bering Strait is 1,260 miles, and, supposing the Swedish explorer to have been as fortunate during the latter portion of his expedition as he was in its first, he must have reached Bering Strait about the latter end of September, and we may daily expect an announcement of his safe arrival in Kamchatka or Japan. The sea to the north of Eastern Siberia is believed to be free from ice during a great part of the year, and more especially between July and September. Russian adventurers and explorers have frequently performed the voyage from the Lena to Bering Strait in small sailing craft, and there is no reason to fear that Prof. Nordenskiöld, in a vessel specially equipped for Arctic navigation, should fail where they succeeded. The accomplishment of the north-east passage in the course of a single season would place the arduous and persistent Swedish *savant* amongst the very foremost of Arctic explorers.

Capt. E. Johannessen, on September 3rd, discovered an island about 200 miles to the E.N.E. of Novaya Zemlya, in lat. 77° 55' N., long. 81° E. The island, which he named Ensomheden ("Solitude"), is about ten miles long, and rises to a height of 100 feet. There was no snow, and although the vegetation is poor, the number of birds was exceedingly large. No ice was seen in the W., N., or E., but drift ice was observed towards the S.E.

The southern detachment of the Danish Greenland expedition, under Lieut. Jensen, has thus far met with success. The leader of the expedition, with three dog-sledges, spent from the 14th July to the 5th August on the inland ice, penetrating as far as a lofty range of mountains, rising above it to a height of 5,000 feet above the sea-level. The rugged nature of the ice, rivulets and lakelets abounding in fish, as well as dense fogs and snowstorms, rendered travelling most difficult. Reindeer and hares were met, and a collection of natural history objects has been secured.

We regret to hear of the death of Lieut. Semele, a French traveller, whose departure for interior Africa by way of the Niger and Benue we announced some time ago. Particulars of his death are still wanting.

Our information from the African east coast is encouraging. The Abbé Debaïse, whose departure from Zanzibar we announced some time ago, started on August 6th from Kikoka, near Bagamoyo, at the head of a caravan of 400 men. He was last heard of from Vimbendi (?), in Useghu, and expresses himself confidently as to the prospects of his mission. The Algerian missionary fathers do not appear to have been equally fortunate. They arrived at Mpwapwa on July 27th, and there parted company, some to proceed to Ujiji, others on their way to the Victoria Nyanza. Lieut. Cambier, of the Belgian expedition, having left Bagamoyo on July 4th, safely reached Mpwapwa by a route half-way between those of Mr. Stanley and Mr. Price. On August 13th he started for Unyamwezi, whither his fellow-travellers, M. Wautrier and Dr. Dutrieux, will follow him.

Capt. Gessi, this time accompanied by Dr. Zuchinetti, has returned to the Upper Nile. The expedition of which he is a member left Khartum on July 15th. On its way to the Sobat a dahabieh, having eighty slaves on board, and a mission from King Mtesa to the Khedive, were met with. The military force accompanying Capt. Gessi is to be employed against Suleiman Bey, the son of Ziber Pasha, to whom Egypt is materially indebted for the conquest of Dar Fur, but who has raised the standard of rebellion in the old ivory-grounds of the Bahr-el-Ghazal.

Dr. Matteucci, who spent forty days at Fadasi and its vicinity, has in the press a work dealing fully with his African explorations. Our contemporary, *L'Esploratore*, hails this publication as the first scientific work on African travel written by an Italian, and as "un vero avveni-

mento litterario per il nostro paese." In the same number of the Italian geographical magazine from which we cull this notice will be found a paper on Schweinfurth's explorations of the Arabian desert of Egypt, with a valuable map containing much original information.

Dr. Heinrich Penn is going to bring out an illustrated edition of the history of Vienna and its suburbs, according to the best sources. The work will be issued in thirty fasciculi at Brünn.

Major Jähns's military atlas, originally prepared for his lectures on the high military school of the German Empire, will be published in ten fasciculi, containing the history of the science of war by land and sea from the earliest period to the end of the sixteenth century. Each part will contain ten tables, accompanied by the text in German.

Mr. Stanford has issued a handy map of the Indian and Afghan frontiers, which is likely to be found useful at the present time. It is substantially the same map as has already been published in the *Geographical Magazine* (which is clearly a reproduction of a portion of Col. Walker's 'Turkistan' map), but enlarged by an ingenious process, and with some of the principal ranges touched up so as to render them bolder, the original map, though most carefully compiled, being rather inartistic in its orography. The chief feature of the new map is the principle on which the frontier and other tribes east of Afghanistan proper are coloured differently, so as to appear independent. This novel method of delineation is somewhat misleading. At a time when the Government appears to contemplate a westward extension of our Indian frontier line, it is well that this point, so far as it can be proved to be an undisputed fact, should be borne in mind. No doubt the Kakars, Povindahs, and other tribes are ready enough to inform British frontier officers and travellers that they own no sort of allegiance to any power. But before any satisfactory definition of their political status can be arrived at, it will be necessary to hear what Cabul has to say about the matter. To take one instance: a British punitive raid on the town of Sibi (here coloured as independent), a short time back, drew down on us the wrath of the Candahar officials, who accused us of invading their territory. What with grazing dues, rent, and tribute fitfully collected, and with tribes of whom in some cases little more is known than the names, the question of independence, real or nominal, is full of confusion and uncertainty. When, in addition to this, it is borne in mind that a large tract of country, including the Zhob valley and Sewestan, is entirely unexplored and practically unknown to us, it must be acknowledged that to colour it as independent and to draw a hard and fast boundary line along a supposed mountain range, the very existence of which is entirely hypothetical, is a bold step indeed. The whole plan on which this new colouring is inserted in the map gives an idea of acknowledged frontiers and an air of finality, which, apart from individual errors, compel us to describe it as misleading. The object would have been better attained by leaving only one frontier line, as drawn on Col. Walker's map, and printing the word "Independent" across the tracts in question.

Mr. Stanford's map of Western Asia includes the regions between the Black Sea and the Punjab. It is on the scale of about 100 miles to the inch, and though it does not embody many recent explorations, it is useful for general purposes, and shows how the Afghan question bears on Western politics.

SOCIETIES.

NUMISMATIC.—Oct. 17.—J. Evans, Esq., D.C.L. LL.D., in the chair.—Mr. Evans exhibited a fine second brass of Agrippa stuck on a large brass flan.—Mr. Grueber exhibited an electrotype of an Oxford ten-shilling piece of Charles the First in the Liverpool Museum; and Mr. Webb a half-crown of Charles the First of rude work.—Mr. C. F. Keary read the concluding paper of a series upon the coinage of Western Europe from the time of Honorius to that of Charlemagne. This paper dealt with the causes of the numismatic revolu-

tion which followed the rise of the Carolingian dynasty, viz., the substitution of a silver currency for the previous coinage in gold. After reviewing the notices of silver money to be found in the law codes of the various Teutonic nations, the writer argued that in the case of all those German peoples which lay around the borders of the Roman Empire there was evidence that the tradition of a silver currency had been preserved. This argument was especially pressed in the case of the earliest Saxon currency (the sceattas), with the object of showing the continued existence of a Saxon colony in England on the *littus Saxonum per Britanniam* from the days of Carausius downwards.—The discussion upon the views put forward in the latter portion of Mr. Keary's paper was deferred until the next meeting.—Mr. Hoblyn read some notes on coins of William and Mary.—Mr. Grueber read a paper on a follis of Constantine the Great struck in London.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Nov. Medical, 8½.
Tues. Meteorological, 8.—Physical Properties of the Atmosphere.
Dr. R. J. Mann.

SCIENTIFIC Gossip.

MR. RANSOME has offered to supply gratuitously an engine to furnish the motive power for the electric light which is to be tried on the Thames Embankment. This offer the Board of Works has accepted. The site for the apparatus has not yet been determined.

MR. LEDGER, the Gresham Professor of Astronomy, will deliver a course of educational lectures upon the Moon, in the theatre of Gresham College, on the evenings of October 29th, 30th and 31st, and November 1st.

MR. E. B. TAWNEY, F.G.S., assistant to the Woodwardian Professor, has presented to Cambridge University his valuable collections from the Rhaetic Bone-bed, teeth of Elasmobranchs from the Lower Limestone shale of Clifton, and many fossils from the Dolomites, St. Cassian, and Hallstadt Beds, and Neocomian of the Continent.

This week we have to announce not an increase but a diminution in the number of known small planets; for it turns out that the planet found by Prof. Watson on the 22nd of September, and supposed to be a new discovery, is in fact identical with one discovered by him so long ago as September, 1867, numbered ninety-four, and afterwards named Aurora. The total number now known is, therefore, 191, the last four of which were all discovered by Prof. Peters, of Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y., who has given them the following names (we affix the true dates of discovery, some of which we had originally reported as later, being only inferred from those of the telegrams):—

No.	Name.	Date of Discovery.
188	Menippe	June 13.
189	Phibia	September 9.
190	Imene	September 22.
191	Kolga	September 30.

A CONTENTS and Index of the first ten volumes of the Records of the Geological Survey of India, 1868 to 1877, have been published in Calcutta.

THE Report of Progress of the Geological Survey of Canada for 1876-77 is an important contribution to our knowledge of the extent, the geology, and the mineral resources of the Dominion. Mr. Selwyn, Director of the Survey, furnishes an introductory report, followed by Mr. G. M. Dawson's account of five months' exploration, extending from Vancouver Island to the interior of British Columbia, with incidental mention of vast landscapes, cañons, rapids, waterfalls, and mighty forests, of which views are given in lithographed illustrations; by Mr. J. Richardson's report on the coal-fields of Nanaimo, and thence to Burrard Inlet and Sooke; and by Dr. Sterry Hunt's summary of Mr. Attrill's exploration of the Goderich salt-region, where, within a depth of 1,500 feet, 126 feet of rock salt in several layers have been discovered by boring. One of the layers, ten and a half feet in thickness, is of remarkable purity, and, as it will yield 22,000 tons to the acre, it is

to be utilized by mining. Next come Mr. R. Bell's geological researches in the neighbourhood of Lakes Huron and Superior; Mr. Vennor's surveys in the counties of Renfrew, Pontiac, and Ottawa, with notes on iron ores and apatite and plumbago deposits; Messrs. Bailey and Ellis's description of a carboniferous belt, and useful minerals, bituminous shales, and petroleum in New Brunswick; and Mr. H. Fletcher's report on the geology of parts of Cape Breton and Nova Scotia, besides particulars of slate formations, of insect Fauna, and "chemical contributions." In addition to the ten lithographs above mentioned, the volume contains five maps, which add greatly to the value of the reports.

M. LEYMARIE, Professor of Geology at Toulouse, who is reported to have constructed the first geological map of France, is dead.

MR. ALBERT A. MICHELSON read before the American Association for the Advancement of Science a paper on some recent 'Experimental Determinations of the Velocity of Light,' which has created much interest. He adopted Wheatstone's revolving mirror, as modified by Foucault, but increased the radius of measurement from 15 to 30 feet, and the distance between the mirrors to about 500 feet. The mean result of a large series of capital experiments gave the velocity of light in air at 186,508 miles per second.

FINE ARTS

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS BY ARTISTS OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOLS IS NOW OPEN, at THOMAS McLEAN'S GALLERY, 17, Haymarket.—Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS, 'THE BRAZEN SERPENT,' 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM,' and 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM' (the latter just completed, each 35 by 25 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Soldiers of the Cross,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Caiaphas,' &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

Fourteen Proof Etchings, after Pictures by Old Crome, Rousseau, Corot, Diaz, Daubigny, and others. (Librairie de l'Art).—M. Chauvel was a clever etcher, a little heavy-handed and at times careless. The praise lavished on him in Mr. Carr's Preface to this elegantly got-up volume is, to say the least of it, exaggerated; still, he possessed the supreme quality of being able to translate in a faithful and fitting spirit the varying motives of the art of Crome, Rousseau, Corot, and Daubigny. He was a capital, though coarse, draughtsman, and he was, above all, possessed of the great advantage for translating the works of painters, that he had been trained as a painter before he became an engraver, and thus was in full sympathy with painters, and conversant with their technique. "Painters' etchings" and "painters' plates" are very easy to distinguish from the works of men who have been educated to regard as indispensable the conventions of engravers; the distinction is complete, and the merits of the former are unquestionable. Many of our best engravers, and nearly all the most brilliant Frenchmen, MM. Rajon and Jacquemart among them, were trained as painters. Of course, the works of M. Chauvel are not comparable with those of the last-named masters, yet there is much that has a profound charm in some of the etchings before us, unequal as they are; for example, 'St. Jean le Thomas' is a scratchy and tame affair, although wholly due to M. Chauvel, whom we distinctly refuse to recognize as a master, or anything like a master, on account of so commonplace and tame a thing. 'Scene in the Neighbourhood of Norwich,' after Crome, although heavy, black, crude, and hard, has the airy look of the painter, and his fine sense of tone and chiaroscuro. Rousseau's 'Swamp in the Forest of Fontainebleau' and his 'Hut in the Forest of Fontainebleau' are both spotty, crude, and black, but the trees in the latter are drawn with rare vigour, and the rocky foreground is admirable for solidity and breadth. M. Chauvel is more at home with the simpler and naturalistic 'Trunk of a Tree,' by M. Diaz, and he has given, fortunately, the solidity of the chief element of the work, the confused, thin, not to say flimsy, cha-

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character of the accessories; it is the custom of M. Diaz to work in this way, and it is this which excludes him from the rank of even the second-rate painters of landscapes, and confines him to that of the "clever men." A congenial inspiration has affected M. Chavet while translating into black and white—too much black, by the way—the 'Spring Tide' of C. Daubigny, a vista of trees and water, ending in farm buildings, almost as graceful in composition as a Corot. By the way, it was our fortune the other day to meet with an English criticism on Corot which described his art as "meretricious"; this is more ludicrously beside the mark than most deliverances even of English art criticism. 'View near Tervueren,' after H. Boulanger, an uncommonly delicate rendering, and the thoroughly sympathetic but rather sooty 'Sunset,' after Corot, may conclude our list of praiseworthy etchings in this book. The others are hardly equal, mostly decidedly inferior, to the above-named works.

Five-Art Gossip.

THE private view of the Winter Exhibition of Pictures by British and Foreign Artists is appointed for to-day (Saturday), at the French Gallery, Pall Mall. The exhibition will be opened to the public on Monday next. Mr. Tooth has chosen the same days for showing and opening his exhibition in the Haymarket.

MR. McLEAN'S fourteenth Annual Exhibition of Water-colour Drawings will open to the public on the 28th instant.

IN addition to, and in completion of, the list of awards of medals to English artists at the Paris Exhibition which we have already furnished we now quote the following, giving the names in alphabetical order. Oil paintings: Mr. Philip H. Calderon, *rappel* of gold medal; the late Sir Francis Grant, the same; Mr. L. Alma Tadema, gold medal; Mr. George F. Watts, the same; Mr. H. Herkomer and Mr. Millais, to each a medal of honour; in honour of the late Sir E. Landseer, Messrs. G. H. Mason, J. Phillip, and F. Walker, diplomas were awarded. To Mr. Onless, a silver medal; and to Sir J. Gilbert, Messrs. W. Q. Orchardson and B. Riviere, have been given bronze medals. Besides these, Messrs. C. Green, G. D. Leslie, and J. Pettie have received honourable mention. For sculpture, Mr. Leighton has a gold medal, and Mr. Boehm is rewarded with a silver medal. For architectural works, Mr. E. M. Barry has a medal of honour, Mr. Waterhouse has a *rappel* of the same, Mr. Pearson and Mr. Street have a gold medal each, Messrs. Norman Shaw and T. H. Wyatt have silver medals, Mr. H. Jones and Mr. J. P. Seddon have bronze medals, and Mr. T. G. Jackson has honourable mention.

MR. A. W. FRANKS has generously offered to the Trustees of the British Museum his comprehensive collection of Oriental porcelain and other wares, which is now in the Bethnal Green Museum, and of which he recently produced a catalogue for the Art Department. Mr. Franks is at present engaged in arranging in the cases of the new room in his department at Bloomsbury the collection of Oriental arms and other objects, the unsold portion of the Meyrick Collection, which Col. Meyrick has given to the British Museum. If the authorities accept the ceramic works the articles will not find their way to the British Museum for the next two years.

WE believe the dioceses of Canterbury and York are alone in possessing anything approaching a complete collection of portraits of the prelates chiefly concerned. At Lambeth are numerous archiepiscopal portraits, including the famous Wareham by Holbein; at Bishopsthorpe are some good pictures, including one if not two Hogarth's. It is surely desirable that every see should possess some record of its tenants, and we are therefore glad to learn that Mr. Watts's portrait of the Bishop of Ripon has, by the bishop himself, been given as an heirloom to the diocese.

WE spoke some time ago of the disastrous effects of the solution applied by Sir Gilbert Scott to the

wall paintings in the Chapter-House at Westminster, and subsequently to a portion of the Cloisters. Mr. James Neale, F.S.A., who is commissioned by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury to repair and preserve the remarkable paintings recently discovered in the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral, has made several experiments and examinations of similar work. In the course of his report, Mr. Neale detailed the results of an experiment illustrating the chipping effect of such solutions. Mr. Neale will, during the forthcoming session, read a paper before the Royal Institute of British Architects touching on this subject. We hope he will not forget to refer to the late proceedings in the Cloisters and the chapels of St. Edmund and St. John the Baptist at Westminster.

MR. BLOMFIELD has completed the operations which he has had in hand for some time at the church of St. Augustine and St. Faith, Watling Street, London, a building which has been ascribed to Wren. The south and west galleries have been removed, and the large lobby added to the interior of the church. It is a novelty to hear of a City church being enlarged. The greater portion of the new work has been decorative; a mosaic pavement has been laid down in that part which is now affectingly called "the sacrum," and the reredos, comprising a picture of the Ascension and figures of the patron saints, has been repainted.

AT the instigation of the municipal council, the authorities of the city of Paris have undertaken to produce photographic reproductions of all the ancient plans of that metropolis which can be found in public or private collections. It is understood that there are about 1,800 of these plans, the majority being, of course, delineations of districts. This work is to be taken in hand at once. In London such tasks are left to private enterprise—witness the publication of Mr. Crace's Catalogue of Maps of London, the recent reproduction of Aggas's plan or map of London by Mr. E. J. Francis, and the similar publications of Mr. Stanford, of more modern dates, which we lately reviewed.

A *réception solennelle* of M. de Jans, the laureate in the competition for the Prix de Rome, has been perpetrated at Bruges. The ceremony began at eight o'clock in the morning with a carillon from the Belfroi, and the national flag was hoisted on the summit of that edifice. All the streets along which the procession had to pass were dressed with flags; even the ruined building of the Académie had been decorated to some extent, and foliage was liberally distributed, while the names of the eleven laureates, including that of M. de Jans, were displayed on escutcheons. At ten o'clock the principal societies of the city, bearing their flags and ensigns, met in the Place de l'Académie, and were accompanied by military bands in full dress. They were joined by the civil authorities, the officers of the Académie and the Ecole Industrielle, by the pupils of both establishments, with their insignia, and others. These dignitaries then proceeded to the railway station to await the arrival of the young artist; "cinq minutes avant onze heures le train pénétra dans la gare," and was received with shouts by a numerous crowd, and by the music of the Garde Civique. After descending from the train, M. de Jans entered a carriage drawn by four horses, and was accompanied by the Echevin of the city, the President, and the Director of the Académie. Attended by many other carriages, conveying the different authorities, and followed by the bands, the carillon sounding all the while, the laureate reached the Académie, amid the cheers of his friends. At the Académie a discourse was delivered by the Secretary, and the Burgomaster handed to M. de Jans a medal of honour. Further congratulations followed this part of the ceremony, including the offering of bouquets by two young pupils of the Académie to their distinguished comrade. The *Journal de Bruges*, our authority in this matter, says that this part of the ceremony

was most touching, and that the laureate was much moved.

THE *Agence Havas* says that in the store-room of the Musée at Berlin have lately been found some cases containing precious mosaics from Ravenna. These cases were, it seems, delivered at the Musée about the 17th of March, 1848, and in the confusion of that period the administration of the Musée forgot to open them.

THE French Government, so says the *Chronique*, has ordered a statue and two busts to be executed, representing M. Thiers. The statue is to be placed in the Musée at Versailles, and to be the work of M. Guillaume. The busts, respectively the works of M. Chapu and Madame Claude Vignon, are to be set up, one in the Institute, the other in the statesman's native town.

THE diggings on the Roman "field of the dead" near Strasbourg have yielded most satisfactory results. There has been no further discovery of stone coffins, but a number of ornaments have been brought to light, amongst others a well-preserved armlet, needles, pearls, and an unbroken bottle of fine white glass.

DR. SCHUBRING writes:—"The excavations at Olympia were recommenced on Wednesday, the 16th of October, and the labours of the very first day were rewarded by success. A telegram of the 19th says:—"North-west of the Heraeum foundation of a building found, with a front twenty metres broad, probably the Prytaneum." If this conjecture prove correct, it shows that the inference I drew in the *Athenæum* for September 14th, 'that the true Prytaneum was on the right or north of the Philippeum, and on the west of the Heraeum, or within the north-west corner of the Altis,' has been verified by the facts."

OF the 'Quellenschriften für Kunstgeschichte und Kunsttechnik des Mittelalters und der Renaissance,' edited by R. Eitelberger von Edelberg, the twelfth and thirteenth volumes have, says the *Allgemeine Literarische Correspondenz*, appeared. The former contains the "sources" of the history of Byzantine art, selected and translated by a well-known authority, Prof. F. W. Unger; the latter contains 'das Buch der Malerzische in Prag,' edited by Prof. Panzerl. The same journal announces an illustrated work on Saxon Châteaux, edited by three architects—MM. Haenel and A. and C. Gurlitt, of Dresden. A 'Dansk Konstenlexikon' has been published at Copenhagen. It embraces Danish artists down to 1877, Norwegian till 1814 (the date of the separation of Norway from the Danish crown), and those of Schleswig-Holstein down to 1864. We may mention two new art publications: 'Bücher Ornamentik der Renaissance,' by Dr. A. F. Butsch, to be published at Munich; 'Waffenwerk des Prinzen Carl von Preussen,' by the Director of the Prince's museum. The first part has just appeared at Nuremberg.

WE are glad to see that the Local Notes and Queries Society, of which Mr. T. Hall Caine is president, refers to ecclesiastical restorations in its revised prospectus which we have received. The Liverpool Society proposes to co-operate with the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and invites ladies and gentlemen of archaeological and architectural taste to join in collecting information with regard to proposed restorations in the North of England. It is added that "intimations of two or three contemplated restorations have already been made to the committee, and it is hoped to have each of these examples judged of, as far as may be, upon its merits."

A SUGGESTION made by Lord Rosebery at Glasgow on a recent occasion, respecting the inauguration of an industrial exhibition in that city, seems likely to be acted upon. It is in contemplation to form a winter garden and museum in connexion with the exhibition. A considerable sum of money towards the object has already been offered.

MUSIC

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY. Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—The FORTY-SEVENTH SEASON will COMMENCE on FRIDAY, Nov. 22, with a Performance of Mendelssohn's HYMN OF PRAISE and Rossini's STABAT MATER. During the Season the following Works will also be Performed:—Rossini's Moses in Egypt; Handel's Samson; Israel in Egypt; and Messiah; Mendelssohn's Elijah; Beethoven's Mount of Olives; Mozart's Requiem and Twelfth Mass; Spohr's Last Judgment; and Costa's Eli. Subscriptions (Tickets transferable) 2, 3s, and 5 Guineas for Ten Concerts. Season Prospectus now ready, and Subscriptions received, at No. 6, Exeter Hall, daily, from Ten till Five; Saturday, Ten till Two.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—MR. WALTER BACHE'S PIANOFORTE RECITAL, MONDAY, October 28th, half-past Three o'clock precisely.—Stalls, 5s.; Tickets, 3s. and 1s.—Stanley Lucas, Weber, St. New Bond Street; usual Agents; Austin's, St. James's Hall, 28, Piccadilly.

MR. WALTER BACHE'S RECITAL, October 28th.—Programme will include Chopin's Sonata (Funeral March), Op. 35; Beethoven's Sonata Apsionata, Op. 37; Liszt's 4 Minor Polishes (first time in England).—Stalls, 5s.; Tickets, 3s. and 1s.

THE NORWICH FESTIVAL.

WITH a single exception, the novelties introduced at the nineteenth Triennial Musical Festival, which ended at Norwich on the 18th inst., require little or no notice. The local professors, Dr. Bunnett, the organist, and Mr. J. A. Harcourt, the son of the chorus master, conducted their own works, which, by a curious coincidence, both had the seasons for their texts, the former having set 'An Autumn Song' for the choir, the words by the Rev. E. Bulmer, and the latter having chosen a more ambitious theme, 'The Return of Spring,' in the form of an Italian *scena* for a soprano voice, which was fairly well sung by Miss C. Penna; but neither composition seemed to interest the hearers to any extent, and it may be assumed that the two composers are not considered prophets even in their own country. The desire to illustrate the unquestionable genius of Herr Wagner for orchestration was very natural on the part of a German conductor who was a distinguished pupil of Weber, but the selection of the detached number from 'Die Walküre,' the first opera of the Trilogy 'Ring des Nibelungen,' which follows the Vorspiel or Prologue 'Das Rheingold,' called 'Der Feuerzauber,' was a complete mistake, for as there was no explanation afforded of the invocation for the flaming fire from Wotan to surround Brünnhilde on the rock, the East Anglian audience was bewildered, marvelling at the outbreak of brass, and at the constant repetition of one passage on the strings. Sir Julius Benedict, despite his patriarchal age, boldly entered the lists with a new overture, with the title, inexplicable to the Norwich amateurs, 'Das Käthchen von Heilbronn.' Here, again, a key to the composer's intentions ought to have been supplied in the programme. It will, however, be remembered by those who were present at Cambridge when Herr Joachim received his degree of Mus. Doc. that he produced as his certificate of composition an elegiac overture to the memory of the unfortunate German poet, Heinrich von Kleist, who, when almost reduced to a state of starvation, committed suicide. The dramas of this gifted poet were not appreciated during his lifetime, and after his death 'Das Käthchen von Heilbronn' became, and is now, one of the most popular plays in Germany. It is the intention of Sir Julius Benedict to select the story for a new opera, the overture to which he presents to the public beforehand, just as he elected to tantalize his admirers by producing movements of his last symphony singly. In this Prelude, which is in E minor, the introduction is of a gloomy character, as it is intended to convey a notion of the mysterious workings of the Vehmgericht, and of the mystic influence of a knight who charms a young girl of very inferior rank; but this heroine of Heilbronn eventually proves to be of superior status to her gallant admirer, the chivalrous aspect of whose surroundings is vigorously depicted in the *allegro*, with an episode *andantino*. This overture will, perhaps, be pronounced, when the drama of Kleist becomes known, to be the finest orchestral work Weber's favourite pupil has ever written. The subjects are clearly defined and ear-taking, their development and treatment sympathetic and forcible; all the resources of the instruments—stringed,

wood, brass, and percussion—are handled with consummate skill; the backbone of all masterly descriptive works, melodious inspiration, is not wanting. As a concert overture, without reference to the operatic setting which is proposed, it will be appreciated, especially when the key to its ingenious devices and effective phrases is given; and, ignorant as the majority of the audience of the 17th inst. were of the story, the impetuous character of the quick movement quite excited the listeners, who encoored the overture enthusiastically, and the second section was repeated. If the popularity at Norwich of Sir Julius Benedict had something to do with the manifestation, it must be noted that the two symphonies, Mozart, No. 5, in E flat, and Beethoven, No. 2, in D, the two marches, the Coronation one from Meyerbeer's 'Prophète,' and the other from M. Gounod's 'Reine de Saba,' both stirring pieces, and Rossini's 'Semiramide' Overture were received with the most profound silence; only a few hands were clapped at their ending, to indicate that masterpieces had been executed.

As regards public opinion in Norwich of the week's music, it will, perhaps, cause no surprise that the largest attendances were for the 'Messiah' on the 18th and for the 'Elijah' on the 17th; these two mornings, and the opening evening of the 15th, with 'Acis and Galatea' and the first part of Haydn's 'Seasons,' contributed the largest numbers and receipts. Now these works are dependent first on their intrinsic art value, and secondly, on effective ensembles in their interpretation; the star system, applied to principal singers, is quite unimportant. The financial failure of Mr. G. A. Macfarren's oratorio 'Joseph' was not compensated for by any artistic success, except the complimentary encore to the six artists in the sextet, namely, Miss Anna Williams, Mesdames Trebelli and Albani, Messrs. Lloyd, Santley, and Hilton. The frigid reception of the numbers was palpable, and when the Mayor conducted the blind composer at the conclusion to the orchestral platform, the expressions of sympathy for the professor and the applause for the musician were the simple recognition of a highly scientific work, which, however, was assuredly devoid of melodious inspiration and of grand and harmonious combinations. Had the 'St. John the Baptist' been chosen in place of 'Joseph,' how different would have been the effect as well as the reception of the oratorio.

The two evening concerts, so imposingly termed "Grand Ballad" and "Grand Operatic," were both badly attended, and what does the result show? It proves that the engagements of leading Italian Opera *prime donne* at exorbitant remunerations, which ensure that the other really working artists obtain reduced terms, and the band is diminished in quality as well as in quantity, from the monetary or commercial point of view, are as unfruitful financially as they are wrong in principle.

If the nineteenth triennial gathering be not destined to be the last of a series of festivals which were commenced in 1824, and have been succeeded by really artistic programmes, containing new works as well as standard masterpieces, it will be necessary to adopt a bolder and more artistic policy. The instrumental performers should be increased, and only first-class players included among them; the choralsists can safely be reduced to about 150 voices, that is, if they are carefully selected. Then, with reference to the solo singers, the first consideration should be that they are essentially artists thoroughly trained in the sacred school; and for a supply of such executants the English musical market will amply suffice.

To turn to the vocalization at the evening concerts of the past week at Norwich, the actually fine performances were those of Miss Anna Williams, in the 'Loreley,' and 'Der Freischütz' scenes, of Madame Trebelli in the 'Che farò' of Gluck, of Mr. Santley in M. Gounod's 'Maid of Athens,' and of Madame A. Sterling in Mr. Sullivan's song, 'The Lost Chord.' A cold was pleaded for Madame Albani (Mrs. Ernest Gye), but her selection of Italian *bravura* pieces was not fortunate; the lady is

forcing her upper notes more and more, and the result is that her intonation is sharp; once more it must be said that screaming is not singing, and what is provoking is, that the Canadian artiste is really capable of doing so much better. For instance, in the ballad of Brahms, and in the duet with Madame Trebelli in the 'Giorno d'orrori' ('Semiramide'), there was genuine charm in her subdued tones, and as Madame Albani has shown that she can sing *piano*, that she has the rare gift of the *mezza voce*, why does she not abandon the *fortiter in re* for the *suaviter in modo*? Mr. Lloyd had a cold, and Mr. Shakespeare, a most excellent musician, with a very sympathetic voice, but, unfortunately, little power, had to sing for Mr. Lloyd; the latter, however, in two gleamings from the late Edward Loder's charming opera, 'The Night Dancers,' sang right well.

It is useless to give the returns at present; until the expenses are arrived at the precise result of the festival cannot be known, but it is certain the hospital will not largely benefit by the surplus. Considering the very long list of patrons, president, vice-presidents, general committee, &c., it is surprising that so few of them attended the festival, whereas the masses at the extra ballad concert on Friday evening (the 19th) to listen to Miss A. Williams, Miss C. Penna, Madame A. Sterling, Messrs. Shakespeare, Minns, and Hilton, Mr. Pettit, violoncello, Mr. Ratcliff, with Sir J. Benedict conductor, who all sang or played gratuitously on an appeal *ad misericordiam*, were immense. A better behaved population than listened outside the hall was never assembled, and the police force, well organized, polite, and attentive, had not onerous duties.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

It is not necessary to discuss the question whether it is politic to open an Italian Opera-house out of the season at reduced prices, and to dispense with the regulations as to evening dress, as that is a matter which concerns the impresario alone. It is his business to decide what is best for his financial interests. From the Art point of view the general public will be benefited, as a *répertoire* will be accessible from which they are excluded owing to the high tariff of admission maintained during the period when the metropolis is filled with foreign and provincial visitors. The prospectus provided for this autumn campaign, if not equal in interest and importance to that of the ordinary period of representations of the lyric drama in Italian,—it is almost absurd in these days to speak of Italian opera when casts are so cosmopolitan,—is sufficiently strong to attract amateurs. It cannot be alleged, however, that Beethoven's 'Fidelio,' given on the opening night (Oct. 19th), was performed in a fashion that would be acceptable to German audiences. It is true that the conductor, Signor Li Calzi, had an excellent band, nearly all the members of which were in Sir Michael Costa's orchestra last season. Mr. Weist Hill takes the place of M. Sainton as *chef d'attaque*. The traditions of the Beethoven tempi, in the two (out of the four) overtures played before and at the conclusion of the first act, and in the accompaniments, are carefully adhered to by the conductor (the Leonora prelude receiving its customary encore), and the choralsists—except in the doomed chorus of prisoners, which never has been sung in tune saving by a German choir—were fairly effective. But except the new tenor, M. Candidus, who made his *début* there as Florestano, Mdle. Bauermeister (Marcellina), and Signor Rinaldini (Jacquino), there was more than weakness in the distribution of the characters. For Don Pizarro and for Rocco a *basso profondo* of power is absolutely required to cope with the heavily-scored orchestral undercurrent, and such voices were quite absent last Saturday. Besides there was nothing in the assumption by Madame Pappenheim on the present occasion calculated to remove the impression she made last season that she has seen her best days; it is not necessary for one moment to recall the Fidelio-Leonora of Schroeder-Devrient, of Malibran, and Tietjens,

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the delineation of Madame Pappenheim must be judged *per se*, and it is useless to disguise the fact that it is not sympathetic in the early scenes, and is destitute of the pathos and power absolutely required for the exciting situations in which the husband is discovered and is saved from the assassin's hands. Of M. Candidus (Mr. White?), who is stated to be American, a high opinion was formed, both as to the quality of his voice and to the excellence of his style. He seems to be destined to sustain the parts requiring a *tenore robusto* of the Donzelli type, and if in future operas he is as effective as in 'Fidelio,' he will prove a most valuable acquisition.

Signor Verdi's 'Rigoletto,' with the return here of the excellent Spanish baritone-bass, Señor Mendioroz, in the title-part, the French tenor, M. Gillandi, as the Duke, the Swedish basso, Herr Behrens, as Sparafucile, the French contralto, Madame Trebelli, as Siebel, and the American soprano, Mdle. Valleria, as Gilda, was a well-sustained representation for Monday last; and the cast of M. Gounod's 'Faust,' even if a more finished vocalist and dramatic artist than Madame Cromond be desirable as Margherita, was highly efficient with Madame Trebelli's Siebel, M. Gillandi's Faust, Signor Rota (Italian) as Mephistopheles, and Señor Mendioroz as Valentine.

On Wednesday the late Bizet's opera, 'Carmen,' was revived, Signor Runcio succeeding Signor Campanini as Don José, Señor Mendioroz appearing as the Bullfighter (Escamillo), instead of Signor del Puente, and Madame Trebelli taking the title-part, Carmen, in place of Mdle. Minnie Hank. Mdle. Valleria resumed Micaëla, Mdle. Bauermeister Frasquita, and Mdle. Perdi (Miss Purdy) was new as Mercedes. With the exception of Signor Runcio, who both as singer and actor was a most inadequate successor to Signor Campanini, the general execution of the work was excellent. The stage business or action of the drama has been much improved, but the main gain was in the triumph achieved by the French mezzo-soprano, the music of 'Carmen' coming within her compass, whilst the refinement of her style, the finish of the *bravura* passages, and the grace of her acting, tended to relieve the repulsiveness of Carmen's character. As a Spaniard, Señor Mendioroz could not, and did not, fail to typify a Toreador. He was encored in the air in the second act. A second hearing of 'Carmen' forcibly reminds those acquainted with Moorish melodies and Spanish tunes what little originality is to be found in the themes of Bizet's work, dramatically as it is treated.

Musical Gossip.

SIGNOR VERDI'S Requiem will be included for the first time in the Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts this day (October 26th). The solo parts will be sustained by Mdle. Sartorius, Miss Anna Williams, Mr. Barton McGuckin, and Herr Henschel; the Requiem will be preceded by M. Gounod's 'Marche Religieuse.'

MR. W. CARTER'S oratorio performances in the Royal Albert Hall were commenced on the 24th inst. with Haydn's 'Creation'; the announced solo singers, Madame Lemmens, Madame Mensley, Messrs. Cummings and Wadmore, with Mr. E. Bending organist. No novelty is promised in the prospectus, but what are termed "Four Grand National Concerts" (Scottish, Welsh, Irish, and English in succession) are to be given.

It would have been a gratifying task to have entered into analytical details of the admirable setting by the late Hermann Goetz of Shakespeare's 'Taming of the Shrew,' an English adaptation of which charming opera was performed for the second time at Drury Lane Theatre last Wednesday afternoon; but the cast and the general interpretation are not strong enough to need special reference. The work is too clever in its orchestration, too melodious in its themes, to be neglected by impresarios. Goetz left an opera, 'Francesca da Rimini,' unfinished, which, however, has been completed by Herr Frantz, and produced in Germany.

Perhaps attention may now be turned to this posthumous production of a composer who died so young, and who has left such striking specimens of his genius.

MR. WALTER BACHE'S pianoforte recital will take place next Monday (October 28th).

MENDELSSOHN'S 'Elijah' will be the oratorio for the opening sacred concerts of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society on the 7th of November, with Mr. Barnby conductor.

A TRIO by Herr Jensen and a Quintet by Herr A. Rubinstein were the new compositions tried at the meeting of the Schubert Society on the 23rd inst.

MR. SHEDLOCK will recommence his Classical Musical Evenings on the 6th of November at Bodleian House, Kensington; Beethoven, Weber, and Chopin nights will be given in turn. The instrumentalists will be Mr. G. Palmer (violin), Herr Lütgen (violinello), and Mr. Shedlock (pianist).

MOZART'S 'Nozze di Figaro' has been performed in English at the Alexandra Palace: the Countess, Madame Rose Hersee; Marcellina, Mrs. A. Cook; Susanna, Madame Blanche Cole; the Count, Mr. Ludwig; Cherubino, Miss Franklein; Dr. Bartolo, Mr. Marler; Basilio, Mr. Harvey; Antonio, Mr. A. Howell; with Mr. F. Archer conductor.

OWING to the illness of Mr. Corney Grain, a change has been made in the entertainments of Mr. and Mrs. German Reed in St. George's Hall; Mr. Arthur Sketchley is the substitute, and has introduced his 'Mrs. Brown at the Play.'

MADAME ADELINA PATTI'S recent concerts in Dublin were not so well attended, owing to the high prices. The *prima donna* is now in Brussels, where she and Signor Nicolini are to commence, on the 31st inst., a series of representations, Signor Verdi's 'Traviata' being the opening opera.

A MUSICAL academy as a department of the School of Science, Art, and Music has just been organized in Cork, under the Public Libraries Acts of 1855 and 1877, and will be opened shortly. This is the first musical school established in Ireland under these Acts; the chairman is Capt. Beamish, and Mr. Arthur Hill is the Honorary Secretary. Mr. Hercules Macdonnell of Dublin, a well-known amateur, who was mainly instrumental in having the bust of Balfie placed in the Academy gallery, has been active in the organization of the Cork Musical Institution, the prospectus of which has just been issued.

THE Cambridge University Musical Society continues its weekly popular concerts this term, each concert not lasting more than seventy or eighty minutes. At the first concert of this season Herr Hermann Franke was the violinist, playing, with Mr. Bower (cello) and Mr. Stanford (piano), Beethoven's Trio in c minor (Op. 1, No. 3), with Mr. Stanford, Tartini's Sonata in c minor, and Ernst's Hungarian airs. A most decided success was attained. Messrs. Stanford and Fuller-Maitland gave Schubert's piano duet in f minor (Op. 103). The Society is going to revive Handel's 'Semele' on November 27th, and also to give Beethoven's Choral Fantasia. Miss Mary Davies and Madame Patey will sing. The Chamber Concert on November 8th will include Schumann's Piano Quartet, Op. 47, and Rheinberger's Piano Quartet in e flat.

THE sixth annual festival of the London Church Choir Association was celebrated in St. Paul's Cathedral last Thursday evening (October 24th). Forty London and suburban choirs assisted, with Mr. W. S. Hoyte at the organ. Mr. J. T. Murray was the Hon. Choirmaster, and Mr. Snell Hon. Secretary. The order of service comprised Mr. F. Archer's Processional Hymns, Nos. 1 and 2; the Preces, by the Rev. S. Flood Jones; the Psalms, Mr. W. S. Hoyte; the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, by Mr. H. Gadsby; the Anthem for tenor solo, quartet, and chorus, "Lord, Thou hast been our refuge," by Mr. Henry Smart; the hymn, "At the name of Jesus," by Mr. G. E. Martin,

Mus. Bac.; and the Processional Hymns Nos. 1 and 2, by Mr. C. E. Stephens.

M. GOUNOD has curtailed the baptism scene in 'Polyeucte' by taking out the "Pater Noster" sung in the part of Simeon: the piece was not in the original score of the opera. An important improvement in the cast has been made by substituting M. Sellier in the title-part for M. Salomon the tenor. The work is played on the Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and the demand for the reserved places will fill the National Opera-house in Paris for weeks to come. Despite the gloom of the libretto, the brightness of the composer's themes and the brilliancy of the orchestration are more and more clearly recognized at every representation. M. Gounod is now hard at work at the composition of a new grand opera, which has been accepted by M. Halanzier, the Paris director; the title is 'Le Tribut de Zamora,' and the poem is by MM. d'Ennery and Jules Brésil. The Italian version of 'Polyeucte' will be produced at Covent Garden, also at Naples, Rome, and Milan; the German adaptation is secured first for Vienna.

'LES AMANTS DE VÉRONE' is filling the Salle Ventadour in Paris at every performance.

THE new opera 'Ekkehard,' by Herr Abert, of Stuttgart, the composer of 'Astorga,' was produced at the Imperial Opera-house in Berlin on the 11th inst. with success. The libretto is based on the novel of Scheffel. The chief characters were sustained by Mesdames Voggenhuber, Lehmann, and Brandt, Herren Müller and Betz. Signor Verdi's 'Forza del Destino' has been heard for the first time in Berlin at the Kroll Opera-house. M. Gounod's opera, 'Phlémon et Baucis,' produced in German at the Imperial Theatre in Vienna, was a great success; the principal parts were assigned to Fräulein Ehn, Herren Walter and Mayerhofer. The Gewandhaus concerts were begun at Leipzig on the 10th inst., with symphonies by Mozart and Beethoven, both in d, and excerpts from Handel's 'Samson.' Herr Löwenberg, a pianist from Vienna, played Herr Rubinstein's Concerto in d minor, and a Study in c, also by the Russian composer, the latter being encored, when Herr Löwenberg substituted a solo by Herr Volkmann, 'Waffentanz' ('The Dance of Arms'). The fiftieth anniversary of Madame Schumann's *début* as a pianist on the 20th of October, 1828, was to be celebrated at the Gewandhaus by a special concert. There were three festival days at Hamburg, from the 25th to the 28th ult., to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Philharmonic Society of that city. Herr Brahms's Symphony, No. 2, was executed, besides works by Bach, Beethoven, Handel, Mozart, Weber, Schubert, Schumann, and Mendelssohn. Herr Joachim was the solo violinist, and Madame Joachim the chief vocalist. At Munich, on the 7th inst., the hundredth anniversary of the opening of the Theatre Royal was celebrated by an occasional drama, 'Vor hundert Jahren,' words by Herr Carl Heigel, music by Herr A. Rüben, suggestive of musical and dramatic events of the past and present; the future was represented by the 'Huldigungs-Marsch' of Herr Wagner.

FROM Italy it is amusing to learn that two young and popular dancers, Mdles. Lucie and Juliette Millie, have abandoned dancing for the lyric drama. Mdle. Lucie has made her *début* as Marguerite in M. Gounod's 'Faust,' whilst Mdle. Juliette, less ambitious, has appeared as Oscar the Page in Signor Verdi's 'Ballo in Maschera,' both at the Politeama in Genoa. The local critics of the city are enthusiastic in their praise of the two new *prime donne*.

SIGNOR GIULIO COTTRAU, at the Alfieri Theatre in Turin, has been successful with his new opera, 'Griselda,' and Signor Italo Azzoni has been also fortunate with his new opera, 'Consalvo,' at the Dal Verme in Milan.

A TELEGRAM from New York announces the commencement of Mr. Mapleson's Italian Opera season at the Academy of Music, with Madame Gerster as Amina, in Bellini's 'Sonnambula.'

DRAMA

Dramatic Gossip.

MISS COWELL'S performance of Fanchon in 'Little Cricket,' on Saturday morning, at the Haymarket, displayed *naïveté* and freshness of style thoroughly suited to the part. Mr. W. H. Stephens was Farmer Barbeau; Miss Maria Harris, Madelon; Mr. W. Redmund, Landry; and Mr. Irish, Jeannot.

'A HOOP OF GOLD,' a melo-drama first played at the Pavilion Theatre, has now been produced at the Surrey. Miss J. Emmerson is the heroine. Mr. Boucicault's drama of 'Grimaldi; or, the Life of an Actress,' is also given.

'THE OCTOBER' has been produced at the Duke's Theatre, with Mr. Wilmot as Uncle Pete, Miss May Holt as Zoe, and Mr. Clarence Holt as Wah-no-tee. 'An Awkward Affair,' a new piece by Mr. Frederic Hay, has also been played.

'STAGE STRUCK,' the recent success of which at a morning performance at the Gaiety we chronicled, has now been added to the regular bill at that theatre. Miss Lawler's presentation of the heroine is an admirable piece of comic acting. Mr. Elton also displays much drollery.

On November 10th the committee which adjudicates the Schiller prize will publish the result of its deliberations. The committee includes amongst others Prof. Ernst Curtius, Prof. H. von Treitschke, Hermann Grimm, Julian Schmidt, Gustav Freytag, and the managers of the Leipzig and Frankfurt theatres, and of the Karlsruhe Court Theatre. They certainly have no easy task. They can crown only such a work as promises to take a lasting place in literature. Every one knows (or at least every one who is not a king) that such works cannot be produced in a single branch of literature at the rate of one in every three years. In the years 1872 and 1875 the members of the committee boldly declared that they could crown nothing. The statutes provide that in the event of no work being found worthy of the award, the money-prize is to be doubled after the lapse of the next triennial period, and it may then either be accumulated upon the head of one dramatist, or else may be divided into two prizes—supposing that two writers should be found worthy. The Schiller jury can now dispose of 3,000 thalers on the 10th of November next, and can crown three works, if it can find them. It is worthy of remark that none of the pieces which have hitherto been crowned with the Schiller prize—excepting, perhaps, Hebbel's 'Nibelungen'—has the slightest chance of holding a permanent place in literature. The 'Sophonisba' of Geibel, the 'Gräfin' of Kruse, and the 'Brutus und Collatinus' of Lindner, do not meet this rigorous postulate of the statute. The *Deutsche Monatsblatt* has been attacking the constitution of the jury, in the interests of the stage rather than in the interests of literature. Who, it asks, has ever seen Prof. Curtius, a great archeologist, inside a theatre? Hermann Grimm, it says, knows everything about Michael Angelo and the Renaissance, but is the merest layman in relation to the modern stage. Prof. Treitschke has been deaf for years, and it would be useless for him to go to a theatre. It cites the terrible onslaught of Ferdinand Lassalle upon Julian Schmidt, who is the secretary of the Schiller committee, and it thinks that the father of social democracy stripped him of all weight as a critic in the eyes of the German people. Gustav Freytag, it acknowledges, was once competent; but he has lived so long in retirement, buried in his historical studies, that he has lost all power of sympathy for modern dramatic productions.

The issue is announced of a 'Jahrbuch für das deutsche Theater,' edited by Joseph Kürschner.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—G. J. S. L.—G. G.—F. J. F.—E. G. B.—J.—received.
D. S. H.—We cannot undertake to answer such questions.
J. G. B.—We do not know.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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